WRESTLING MONTHLY

Wrestling MONTHLY

NOVEMBER 1977

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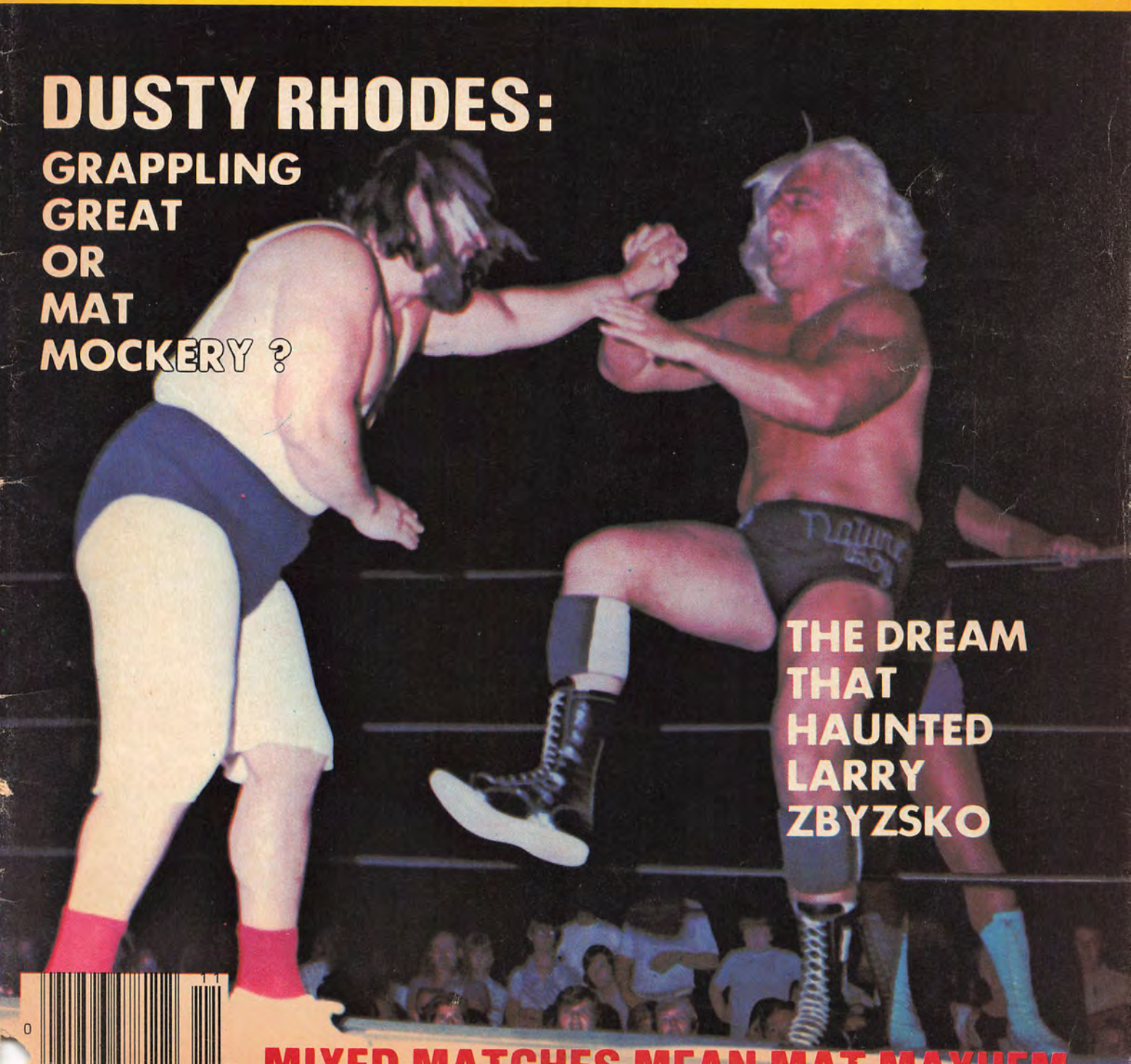
THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF WRESTLING

DUSTY RHODES: GRAPPLING GREAT OR MAT MOCKERY ?



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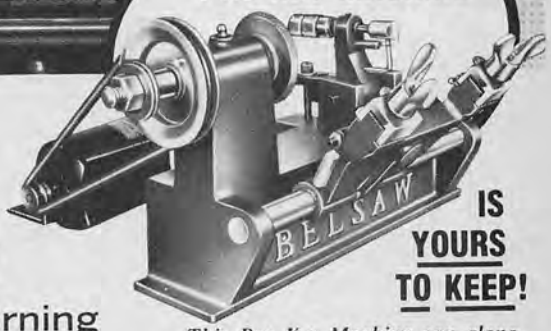

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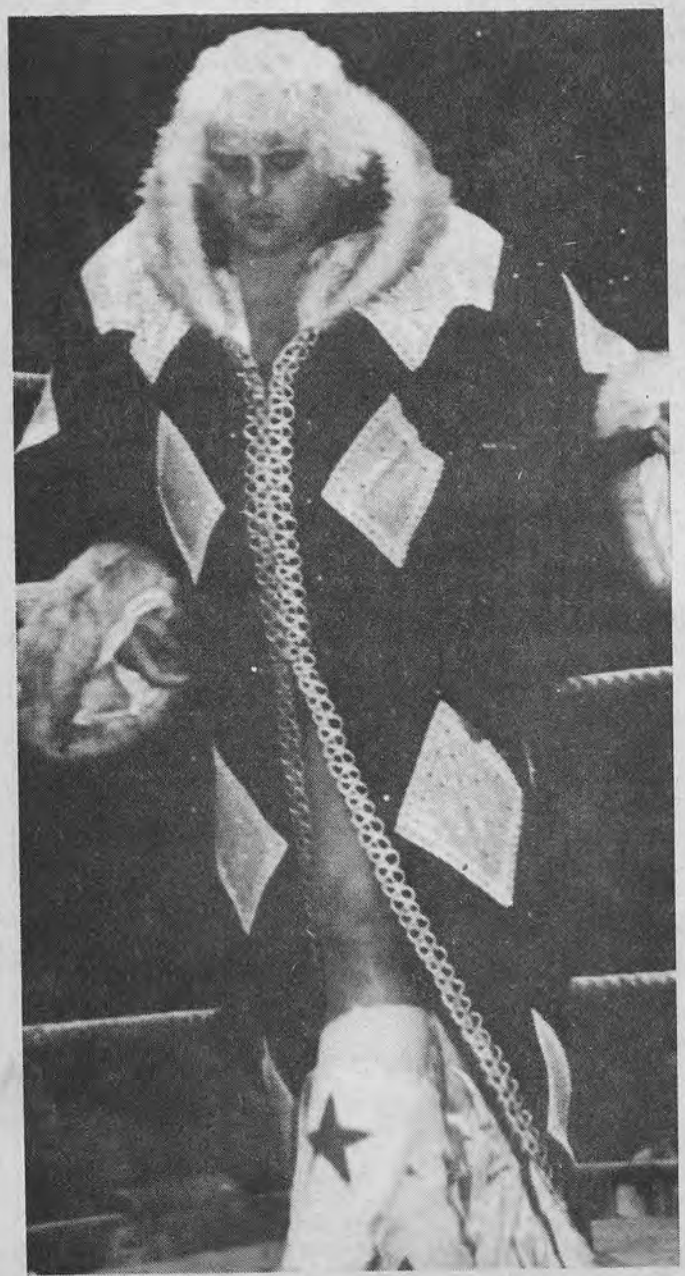
DUSTY RHODES: AMERICAN DREAM OR NIGHTMARE?

By FRANK AMATO



Dusty Rhodes is a regular fashionplate in the ring with a variety of fancy and expensive robes, some of which include matching hats.

The world of professional wrestling refers to Virgil 'Dusty' Rhodes as The American Dream. His detractors refer to him as The American Nightmare.

Dusty also has become known as Big Dust. His detractors call him Little Ashes.

Dusty is also called The Cosmic Cowboy. His detractors bill him as The Cosmic Stumblebum.

Who are these detractors? They are the professional wrestlers who have run afoul of Dusty Rhodes. The hate they have for Dusty Rhodes shows no bounds. They yearn for the time they can have their hands raised in victory over Rhodes. So far most have become disappointed. Dusty Rhodes loves to disappoint his enemies.

One of Dusty's most potent weapons is his Cosmic Elbow Smash which he uses to soften up his opponents. This usually results in another victory for Rhodes.

Perhaps Dusty Rhodes' biggest detractor is former National Wrestling Alliance heavyweight champion Terry Funk. Funk has more than just a professional hate. It goes much deeper than that.

Says Funk, "Dusty Rhodes is a mockery of professional wrestling. He is envious of any wrestler who is better than he is. If a wrestler has a title then Rhodes wants that belt and will do most anything to get it. He reminds me of a spoiled brat who rants and raves because he can't own what the others have. I truly think Rhodes is sick. That makes him dangerous."

Terry Funk believes Rhodes has become maniacal where the NWA title is concerned. He says, "When I held this title Rhodes always ran to promoters screaming he's the top challenger. Everywhere I turned there was Rhodes. I felt he had become my shadow. We had scores of matches and I admit he won his share of non-title bouts, by cheating of course. But when the chips were down and my title was on the line Rhodes always came out second best."

"I hate Dusty Rhodes because he couldn't win my title so he injured me and cost me the title. About a week before I lost the title to Harley Race in Toronto, Canada, I wrestled Rhodes. He injured my leg so severely my doctor and my brother Dory begged me not to wrestle Race. But I was the champion.

"Well, I have news for Rhodes. My turn is coming up. I won't injure you, Rhodes. But I will bury you. That is my promise."

Rhodes has no love lost for Terry Funk.

Says Rhodes, "Terry Funk never saw the day he could beat the big gun from Texas. I've beaten Funk seven ways to Dallas and back. Yeah, I won those non-title matches. Funk managed to keep his title but only by trickery and deceit. This man is so scared of Big Dust he actually had a bounty placed on my head. This bounty is up to $20,000 and so far no wrestler has ever claimed it.

"Talk about sick people! Terry Funk needs much care. How sick can a man be to have a bounty placed

Although there's no mistaking Dusty Rhodes, the American Dream leaves nothing to chance and has his name emblazoned on his trunks.

on a man. This is barbaric. I'm truly sorry that Funk comes from Texas. He gives our great state a bad name."

One other wrestler who thinks little of Dusty Rhodes is 'Superstar' Billy Graham. Graham and Rhodes waged many battles while in Florida.

Says Graham, "Let me tell you, Jack, that Dusty Rhodes is a disgrace in wrestling because he acts like a wrestler but is nothing but a barroom brawler. The man has no class. Look at my magnificent physique and look at that big belly of Rhodes. The man takes no real pride in his appearance. The man has no moves. The man should be more like Superstar Graham."

Naturally, Rhodes' detractors will try to demean him. Yet the fans love Rhodes. They pack the arenas from Florida to the deep south, from St. Louis to Texas. When Big Dust appears they flock to see him. If the NWA had a popularity poll Dusty Rhodes would likely win hands down.

Still there was a time in the life of Dusty Rhodes when there were no cheers, only boos. That was several years ago when Dusty was teamed with fellow Texan, Dirty Dick Murdock. They were known as The Outlaws those days in the American Wrestling Association.

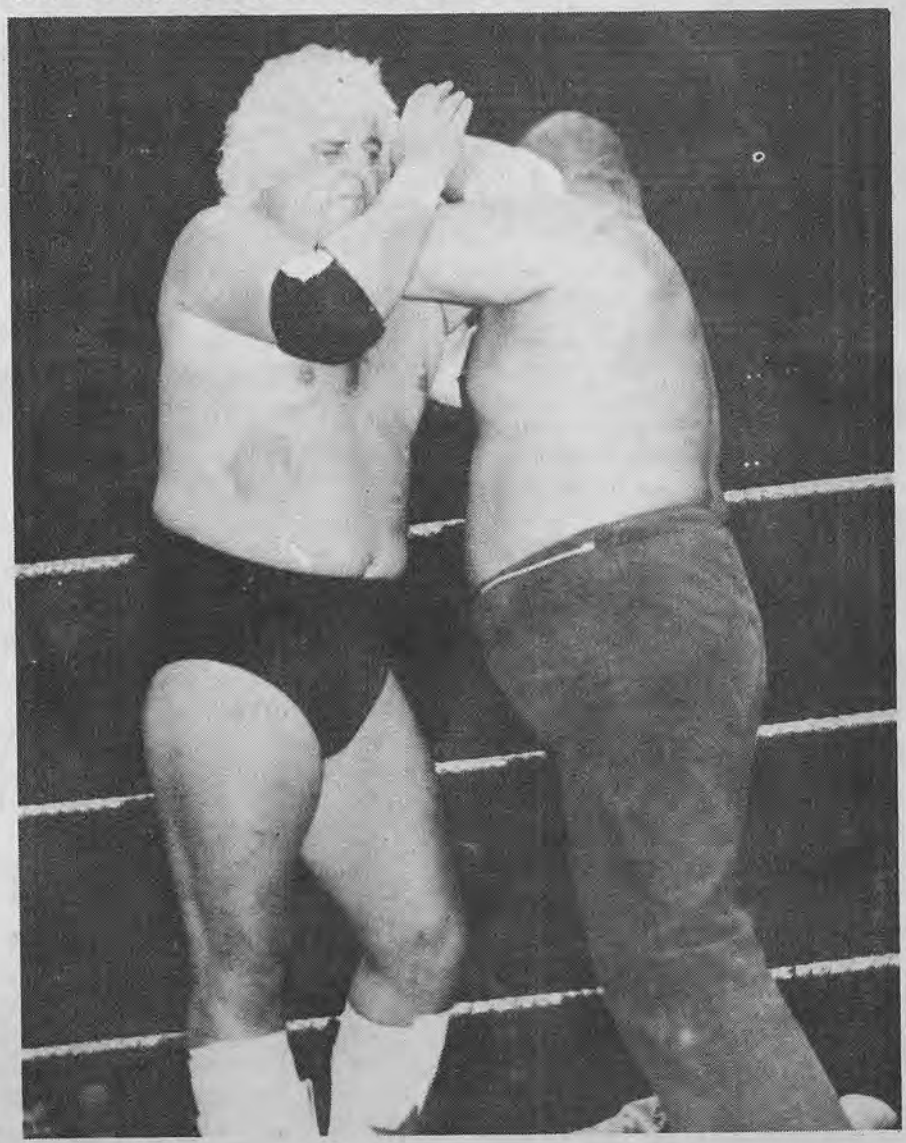
So mean and rotten were Rhodes and Murdock the fans flocked to the arenas to see them beaten by the local heroes. Only two teams in the recent history of the AWA have equalled The Outlaws in hatred, Mad Dog and Butcher Vachon and the team of Ray Stevens and Nick Bockwinkle. Close behind is the team of Blackjack Lanza and Cowboy Bob Duncum.

Dusty remembers those Outlaw days with regret.

"You know when you grow up poor you never want to stay that way. Wrestling gave me my chance. Being a villain with a boyhood buddy like Dick gave me that opportunity to make quick money.

"Fame came fast. I never liked being booed by the fans. I secretly wanted to hear the cheers. But, lordy, we were doing so well I couldn't pass up that easy money. Also all that experience came my way. In those days I had my hair cut short in a crewcut. No tactic was beyond Dick and myself. For quite a long time the Outlaws were rated in the

Dusty Rhodes comes to grips with his opponent Tor Kamata in a battle of wristlocks, but this time Kamata had the edge and works on Rhodes' wrist prior to whipping Dusty into the turnbuckles.



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When he isn't wearing his flowing, fancy robes, Dusty Rhodes is often decked out in a variety of T-shirts inscribed with different slogans, such as this one with 'Love' on it.

top 10 for tag teams. Unpopular though we were, we were successful."

In reality Dusty's true name is Virgil Reynolds. He comes from Lutz, Texas, where he owns a ranch. He has two children Dustin, 7, and Kristin, 4. On his ranch Dusty raises Santa Gertrudises, bulldogging rodeo horses. He also had an arena built on the ranch for training the horses.

It was three years ago that Dusty Rhodes decided that all the boos had to end. So the villainous team of Rhodes and Murdock came to a halt. Both turned over a new leaf. Rhodes ventured to Florida where he set that state on its ear. The fans took to Dusty like bees to honey. Ask any wrestling fan there who is their favorite wrestler and Dusty Rhodes is the likely answer.

Rhodes hates villains now. It has become a fetish with him to rid wrestling of rulebreakers. His matches with the best villains have made him a household word all through the south. Matches with the likes of Pak Song, Masked Assassin, Ox Baker, 'Superstar' Billy Graham, Harley Race, Terry Funk, Ric Flair, Johnny Valentine, Super Masked Destroyer and the list can go on and on.

Rhodes never backs away from any challenge or any type of wrestling match. He has become involved in cage bouts; lumberjack bouts; bullrope bouts; Texas death bouts; chain bouts; Indian strap bouts. In all these matches Dusty's blood flows as does that of his opponents.

Dusty says of the bloody contests, "I bleed easy. My skin on my forehead is scarred from many tough wrestlers. This scar tissue opens from a hefty kick or punch if delivered hard enough. The blood don't bother Big Dust. I expect it. In fact it makes me fight harder. Blood is a hazard of the business. You just live with it."

When Dusty Rhodes enters the ring he wears a wide variety of wrestling costumes. They range from T-shirts with titles, such as Dusty, Big Dust or American Dream on them. He also wears expensive robes trimmed in mink, gold and silver, with matching hats.

Dusty also wears wrestling boots normally in white, with his name stenciled on it or the word 'Texas'. In the ring Dusty is perpetual motion before the match always moving, doing a shuffle with his feet. Once the match starts Dusty keeps moving. When an oponent misses with a maneuver Dusty shakes his rear. The crowds love it.

Dusty will use a wide variety of holds. He knows them all. When the going gets tough, which it usually does, Dusty pulls out all the stops. His elbow smash is devastating. Dusty will use this maneuver to punish a villain and normally end his matches.

In person, Dusty Rhodes is really a happy-go-lucky kind of guy. He will sit still for interviews and photos. He is always ready to sign autographs for the fans. He loves his fans, especially kids.

"I love the kids. They are the backbone of this business. I always have time for them. I appear at functions to help the kids, especially the underpriviliged. God bless the kids."

Dusty Rhodes is a favorite of the fans. They love him. The kids love him. Dusty loves them right back. The big gun from Texas is here to stay which is bad news for his detractors. Dusty Rhodes wouldn't have it any other way.

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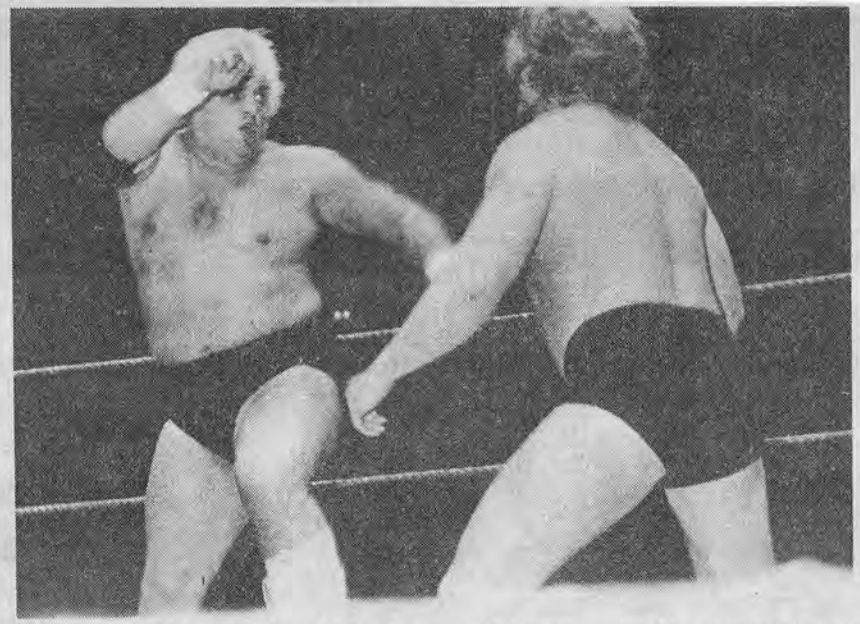
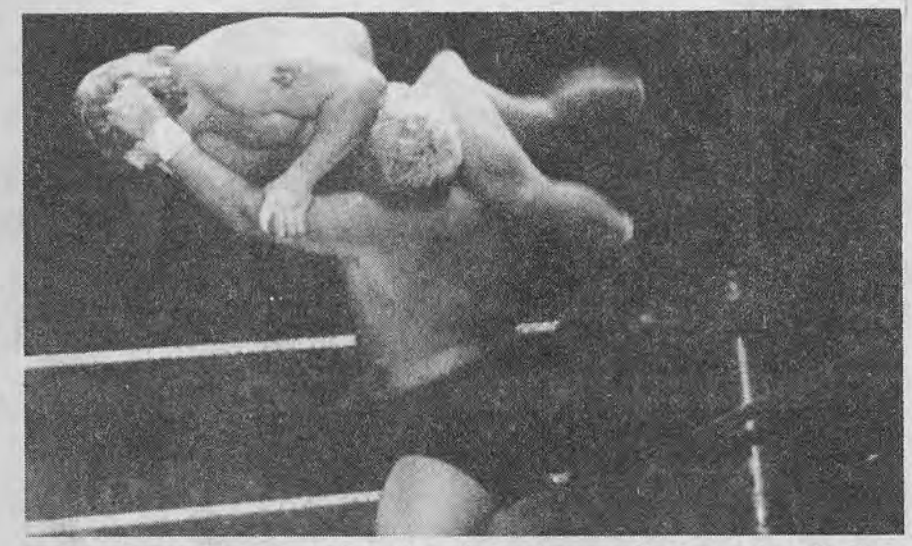
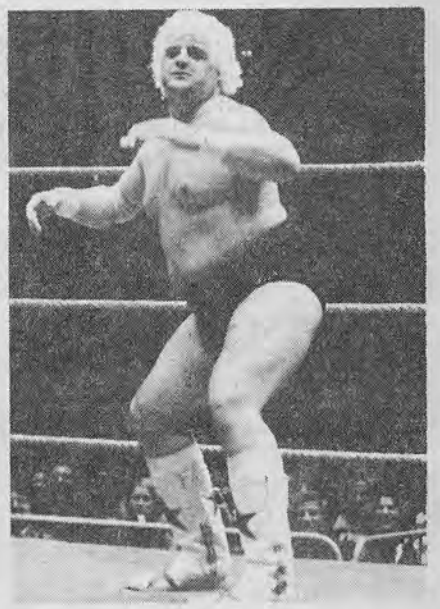


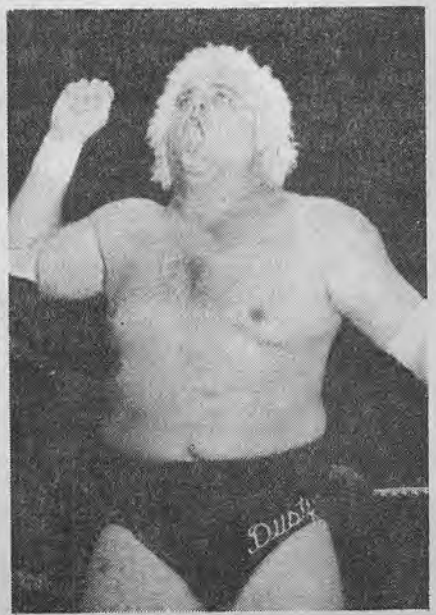
Dusty Rhodes gives it the old razzle dazzle as he prepares to uncork a punch at his mesmerized opponent.



Dusty's detractors claim he's a discredit to the grappling game, but Rhodes usually silences his critics. Here he prepares to bodyslam his opponent.



Like a king on his throne, a haughty Dusty Rhodes pins his beaten foe to claim another mat triumph much to the delight of the growing number of Rhodes rooters.



Gestures such as Rhodes' Texas shimmy and victorious war whoop have made Dusty a favorite of fans throughout the wrestling world, quite a change from the early days of his grappling career.

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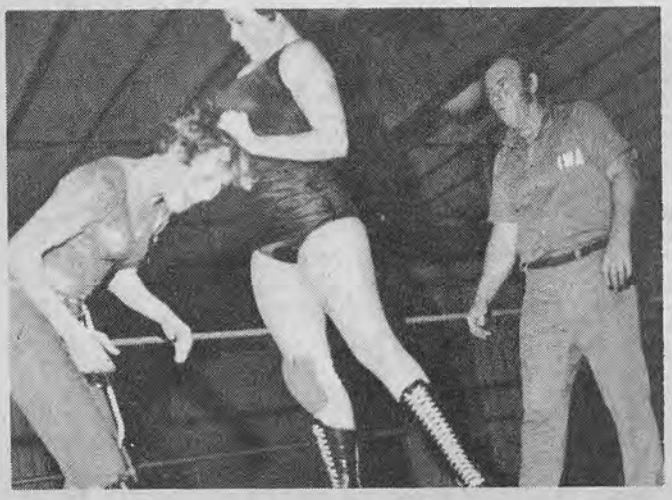
MIXED MATCHES MEAN MAT MAYHEM

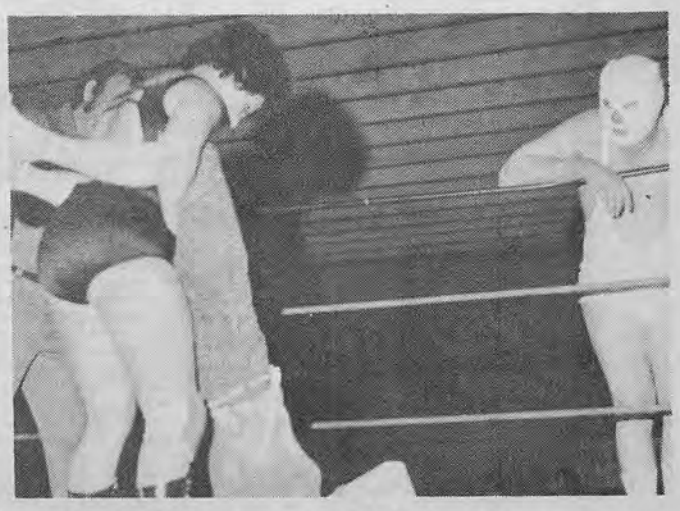
Photos by GENE GORDON

Tag-team tussles are a treat.
Fighting females are favorites of the fans.
So, it's natural that promoters would combine the best of both worlds and present mixed tag-team matches.
The result, mat mayhem as these photos by Gene Gordon show.

The combatants in this mixed match are introduced prior to the action-packed encounter. The Gladiator holds aloft the arm of his partner Sandy Partlow (left), while Daisy Mae stands in the corner as her masked partner, The Patriot, takes a bow on being introduced.



Sandy Partlow wasted no time as she grabbed Daisy Mae's hair then leaped high in the arm to deliver a powerful elbow smash.



The Patriot can only watch helplessly as his partner gets a different view of things as Sandy Partlow is about to treat her to a giant swing.

. . the U.S. Government Awards The Ram-Jet Supercharger Patent No. 3118435. And other patents pending.

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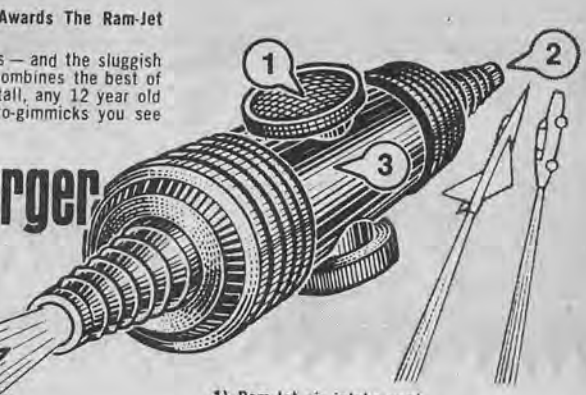

Easy instructions show you how to install in just 3 minutes or less. No tools. No training needed. It's about as easy as screwing in a light bulb. (And ladies, you can do it without even getting your hands greasy).

1) Ram-Jet air intake vent.

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4) "Jet Stream" of super vaporized mix improves carburetion — actually results in FREE power!! Adds as much as 15 more usable horsepower (And it does so with absolute 100% safety).

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We believe Ram-Jet is the most exciting piece of high-performance automotive equipment since the V-8. Yet it weighs only a few ounces. Installs in a couple of minutes (No tools or training needed. You won't even get your hands greasy). Costs less than a tankful of gas. And **saves you so much gas, it's like getting every tenth gallon FREE!**

The brainchild of Ed Almquist, internationally famous automotive engineer and the "Thomas Edison of high-performance accessories" . . . The Ram-Jet took over 20 years to develop and perfect. And now — only after proving itself beyond a shadow of a doubt — at Pocono and other stock car races, as well as in a national test of thousands of ordinary cars in normal driving situations . . . NOW, AT LAST, THE RAM-JET IS READY FOR YOU! READY TO TURN POLLUTION INTO FREE POWER!

How does it work?

Just as a jet engine requires a certain supply of air to operate . . . so does the gasoline combustion engine in your car. And it's the carburetor that mixes this air with fuel to fire the cylinders and make your car go. The problem is that carburetors were invented over 50 years ago when gas was plentiful and cheap and air pollution wasn't even talked about. The carburetor hasn't changed much since then: It's still a big compromise! It only works perfectly on those rare occasions when all driving conditions are perfect. (Which averages only a couple of minutes at the most out every driving hour). Your carburetor just can **not** efficiently adjust itself to your stop-and-go driving, sudden bursts of speed; or to put it in technical terms . . . those many occasions when your engine is operating under 0-10" high-load conditions. When this crucial mixture of air and gas is not right on the money, the result is a loss of power with a lot more gas being burned than is really necessary!

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If you've ever wondered why the newer cars seem to have even less power than the older ones, well now you know. Today, you can pay as much as $10,000 or $20,000 (or even more) for a new car and still find it lacks real oomph when you need it, hesitating and even stalling out on you frequently.

Now, at last, the Ram-Jet to the rescue! It solves both problems at once.

It brings your 50-year-old-carburetor design into the Jet Age.

1) It works like a mini-computer to automatically adjust the air/gas mixture to your every driving need. It thus steps up gas molecularization . . . reducing gas flow **before** it becomes wasteful. Just as a jet engine sucks air into it . . . the Ram-Jet automatically and safely jets air into the gas mixture the very split second your driving conditions require it.

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An airline pilot writes: "Suddenly my little six cylinder engine seems to have the power of an eight. Yet it saves gas like it was a four. That little Ram-Jet is amazing!" — Phillip Shade, Plymouth, Connecticut

"I used to get around 21 mpg. in city driving, and around 26 mpg. cross country. Now I get around 39 mpg. city driving and around 41 mpg. cross country. And the pickup is fantastic! That Supercharger you sent me is Marvelous." — J.P.D., Quebec, Canada

"I have a Ram-Jet. And so do many of my parishioners. We found out that we average from 2 to 6 more miles per gallon with much more engine pep and acceleration."— The Rev. P. Mick Harvey, Illinois

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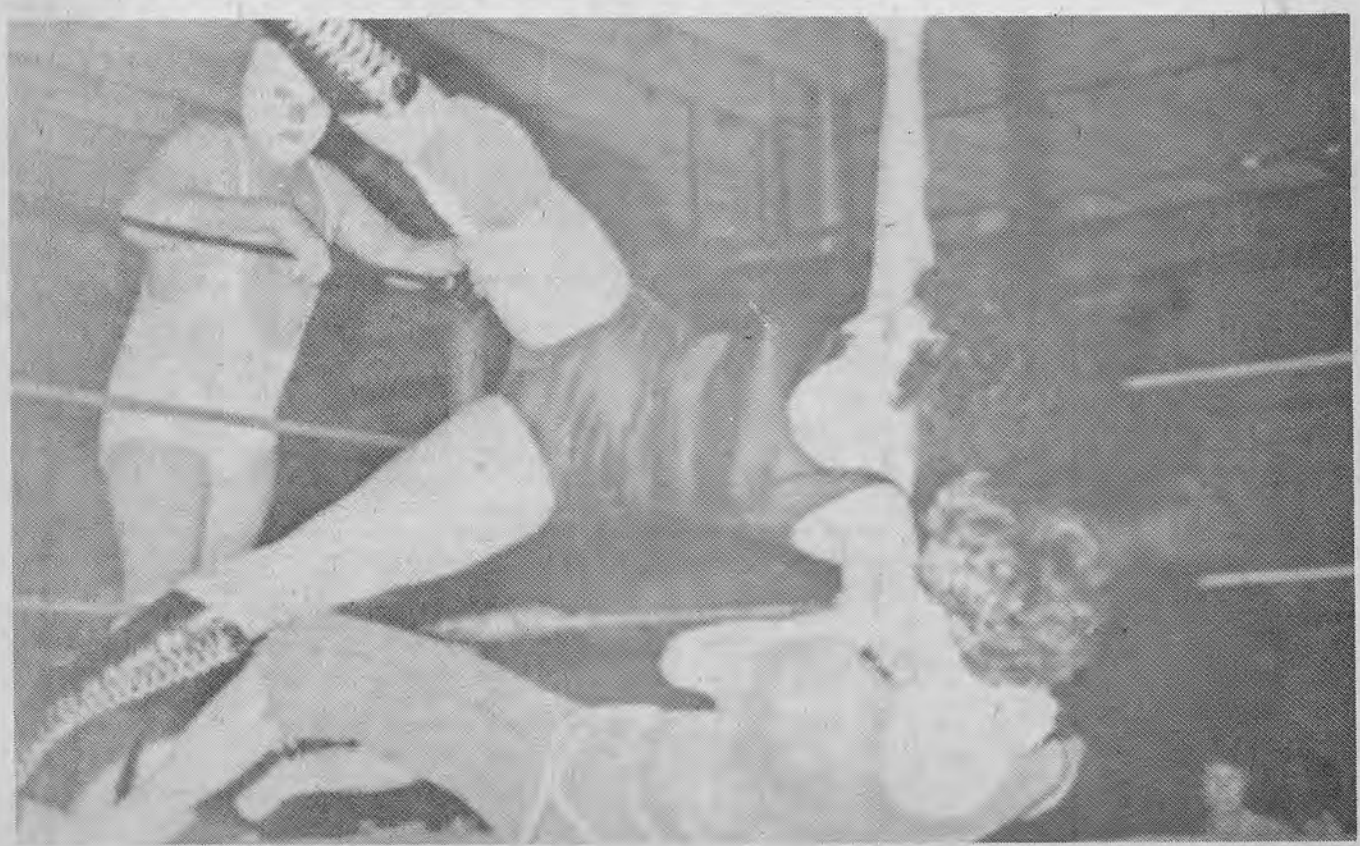
The masked men finally swung into action and the Patriot wasted no time in decking the Gladiator with a right to the jaw.



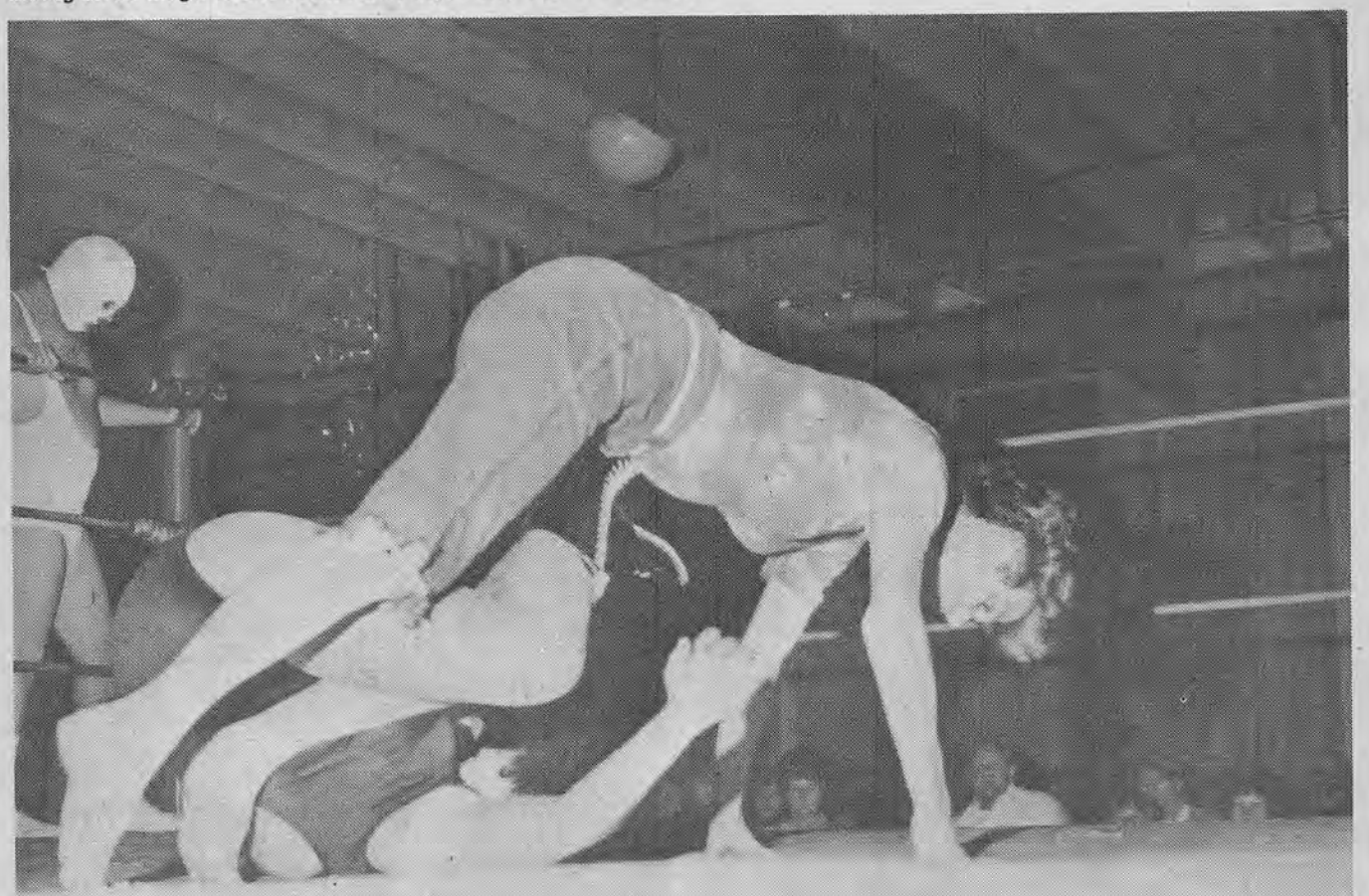
It was 'Oopsy Daisy' for Sandy as Daisy Mae send her sailing through the air with an arm flip.

The Gladiator backs the Patriot into a corner where Sandy Partlow is waiting to assist her partner. Sandy proceeds to put the boots to the Patriot while her partner, the Gladiator, offers his hand for added leverage.

Sandy Partlow is literally caught in the act as the Patriot latches on to her leg to put a halt to her stomping.

The girls are back in action and Sandy Partlow sends Daisy Mae hurtling through space prior to crashing to the canvas.

Daisy Mae's leg scissors makes Sandy Partlow squirm as she tries to escape the hold while the referee keeps check to see that Sandy keeps her shoulders free of the mat. Daisy Mae looks up at the referee, who cautions that her leg scissors is bordering on an illegal choke hold. Naturally, Daisy claims innocence.



While Sandy was busy assaulting the Patriot, she was caught with her guard down and Daisy Mae took advantage of the situation to pin Sandy.

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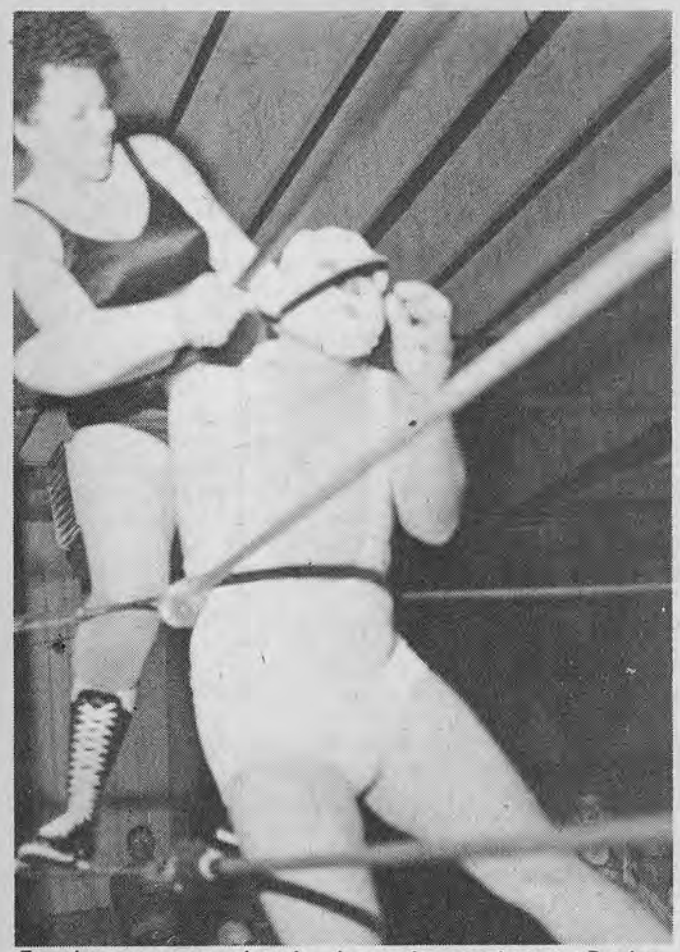
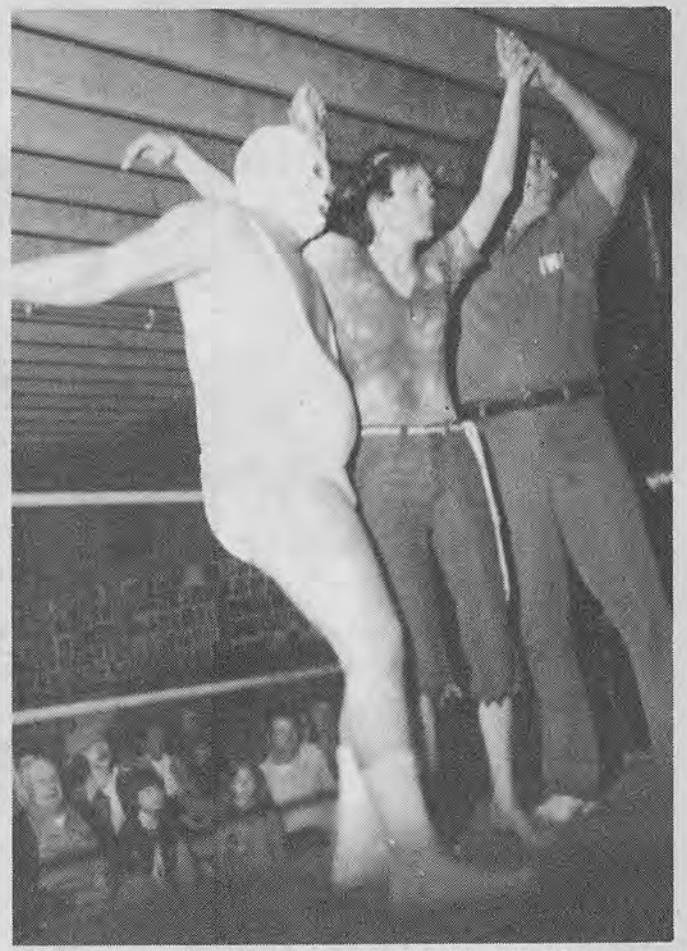
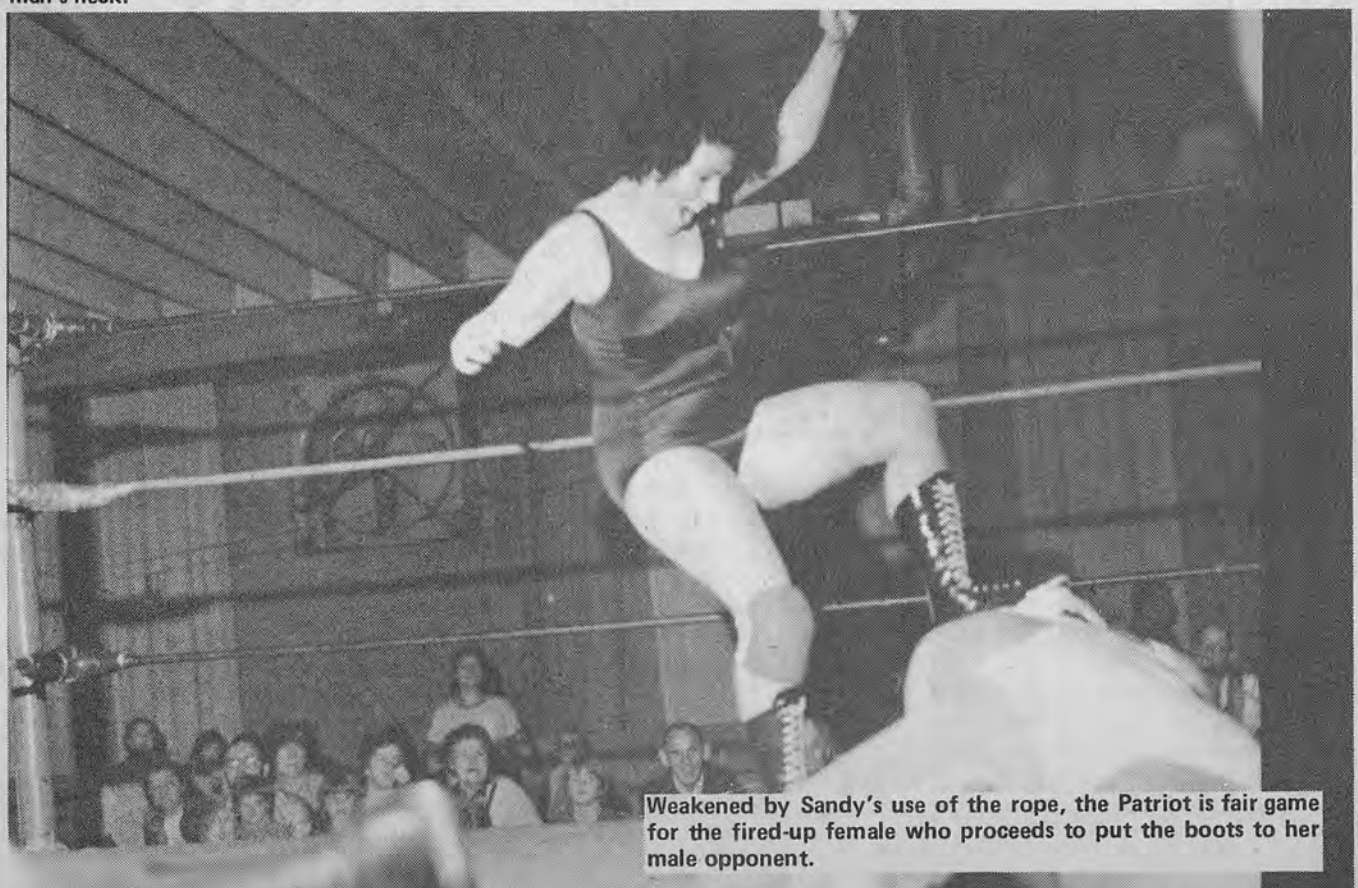


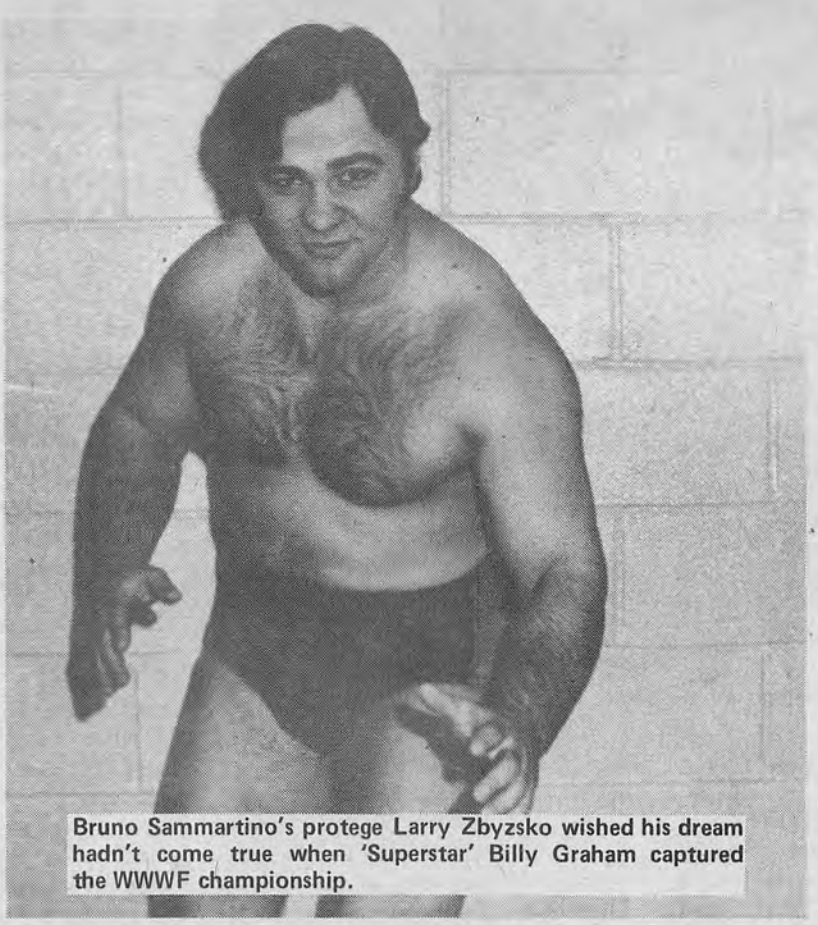
Females are supposed to be the weaker sex but the Patriot wouldn't subscribe to this theory as Sandy Partlow climbs on the ropes and wraps the tag-team rope around the masked man's neck.



A still groggy Patriot has to lean on the ropes for support as he and his partner Daisy Mae are acclaimed the victors in a hard-fought match.



Weakened by Sandy's use of the rope, the Patriot is fair game for the fired-up female who proceeds to put the boots to her male opponent.



Bruno Sammartino's protege Larry Zbyzsko wished his dream hadn't come true when 'Superstar' Billy Graham captured the WWWF championship.

THE DREAM THAT HAUNTED LARRY ZBYZSKO

By FRANK AMATO

It turned into a night Larry Zbyzsko will never forget. A night he hopes he will never see again. A night that turned into a nightmare. No, Larry Zbyzsko did not lose a match or become injured in any way. He had nothing at all to do with the match. All he was was an observer. Now he wishes he hadn't looked on.

The place was Baltimore, Md., at the arena for a night of professional wrestling. The big attraction that night was a Battle Royal for the semi-final. The main event was for World Wide Wrestling Federation heavyweight championship between champion Bruno Sammartino and challenger 'Superstar' Billy Graham.

Zbyzsko had misgivings about his mentor, advisor, trainer and close friend Sammartino. Larry was wary of 'Superstar' Graham because Graham had the power, ability and cunning to win the title.

Larry remembers saying to the press prior to Bruno's match, "I hope Bruno is ready for Graham. I mean both physically and mentally. This Graham is dangerous. He's sneaky. I normally don't believe in dreams but last night I dreamt that Graham walked from the ring wearing Bruno's belt. The dream seemed so real. I wish this match was over. I have complete confidence in Bruno but that dream bothers me."

Larry saw the match from the dressing room exit, with other wrestlers, both hero and villain alike. What Larry saw was Bruno and Graham test each other in strength. It seesawed back and forth. Then it turned into a brawl. Larry saw Bruno bloody Graham at will. Larry felt much better as Bruno seemed in control.

Then Larry saw Bruno apply his bear hug to 'Superstar' Graham. The match appeared to be over. Then, Graham reached out in desperation and grabbed the ropes. Bruno released the hold after the referee ordered him to. Bruno started to batter Graham with punches and Graham was hurt. As Bruno kept punching Graham the referee for some untold reason tried to interfere giving Graham a rest.

Executioner No. 2 takes refuge on the ropes as Larry Zbyzsko works on his arm.

Zbyzsko shook his head. What Bruno was doing was not illegal. Larry grew concerned. Then Bruno turned towards the referee to argue and Graham upended Bruno into a jacknife for the pin but Graham lifted his feet onto the ropes in the corner turnbuckle for leverage. The referee not seeing this tolled off the fatal three count.

Larry was aghast. He saw Graham get his hand raised in victory while holding the WWWF gold belt. Then Graham ran from the ring, clutching the belt. Larry saw Bruno and his manager Arnold Skoaland argue rather vehemently over the outcome. Larry's worst fears were now fully realized. The dream had become a reality.

Larry remembers saying to the press afterwards, "The pin should be waived. Graham used the ropes illegally. I'm sure Graham will have to give back the belt after the film of this match is reviewed."

Well, the film was reviewed and Graham was ruled the rightful winner. Bruno had indeed lost the match and the title. Larry was crestfallen. His idol had lost the title.

Or as Larry states, "Bruno did not lose his belt. It was stolen from him. In the dressing room I tried to console Bruno but he was too furious over the outcome."

Zbyzsko had seen his idol lose the title this time. The last time Larry was in college but in training to become a professional wrestler when Bruno lost the WWWF belt to Ivan Koloff in January, 1971. Larry felt bad for Bruno then as he did this time. Only this time he witnessed the historic match himself.

Larry states, "Someday I hope to wear the WWWF belt. When I was just a boy of 12 I dreamed of wearing Bruno's belt. Being a wrestler was always uppermost in my mind. That was why I wanted Bruno to train me. I wanted to follow in Bruno's footsteps. I wanted to be just like him."

Part of Larry's dream has come true. Bruno did take the 12-year-old Zbyzsko and train him. Larry's determination carried him through the rigorous training schedule. The weeks turned into months, then months into years. Larry, under Bruno's orders, went to college, in between.

Then it was time for Larry's indoctrination into pro wrestling. At first Larry just wrestled on weekends in prelim matches around Pittsburgh and Ohio. Larry did well. He kept winning his matches. Still the training continued to work off the rough edges and go through any mistakes Larry would make.

Then bigger matches came Larry's way. He held his own against Baron Mikel Scicluna a highly-rated wrestler. There came other big matches. By this time Larry had started wrestling full time, his college diploma safely tucked away at home.

Now appearing in the WWWF in 1973 Larry again held off Baron Scicluna. Then came a big match against well-regarded Mr. Fuji. This match was definately most important for young Larry. In his Japanese adversery he was facing an experienced, cunning major mat star. Larry proved why his star was more than on the rise. He whipped Mr. Fuji after a rough beginning. Even the Japanese wrestler seemed impressed with this young man.

After this match, the WWWF buzzed with the news that Zbyzsko was

Wrestling is a sport of give-and-take and here it's Larry Zbyzsko who is on the receiving end as Executioner No. 1 latches onto his locks as he's about to deliver a haymaker.

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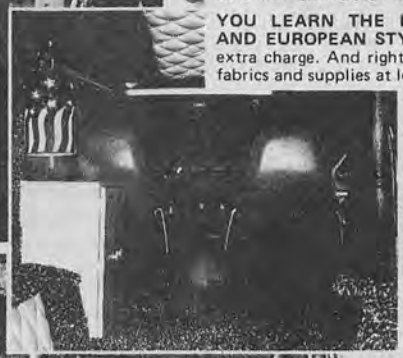

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more than just a pretty face. He was more than just a carbon copy of Bruno. This young man was for real and not to be taken lightly. Many more matches were won by Larry as he continued undefeated for months.

Then came a memorable night when Larry did battle with Killer Kowalski during a TV bout. This for Larry was the ultimate test. In Kowalski, Larry was facing a superstar in villainry. This night Larry fought his heart out and did well until Kowalski knocked Larry over the ropes but Larry's foot became tangled in the top and middle strands, leaving Larry dangling upside down.

This was all Kowalski needed and he pounced on Larry until Sammartino ran to Larry's rescue. As Bruno was trying to untangle Larry, Kowalski attacked Bruno.

Larry Zbyzsko (right) congratulates tag-team partner and countryman Ivan Putski after another victory for the Polish Prince and Polish Power.

Later in their dressing room Larry felt bad that Bruno was attacked because of him. Larry remembered what Bruno told him. Says Larry, "Bruno said to me, 'Kowalski and all the rest know I trained you. They will try to get at me through you. This is the way of things. It can't be helped. Just be ready for anything. I can protect myself. But you are a marked man from now on.' "

Larry soon found himself winning the WWWF Rookie of the Year Award for 1974. Larry was most proud of receiving his trophy. He says, "I never dreamed when I started wrestling I would ever be in contention for this honor. I couldn't have won it without the help of Bruno's training. This trophy is partially his."

Zbyzsko did extremely well in tag-team matches. He teamed successfully with Haystacks Calhoun, Chief Jay Strongbow, Tony Garea, Dean Ho, Dominic DeNucci and Jose Gonzales. The team Larry saw most action against was Jimmy and Johnny Valiant, who were then the reigning WWWF Champions.

Larry says of them, "I've faced many tag teams during my five years in pro wrestling but these Valiants have to be the most vicious. I rate them number one on my list. Others I rate after them are: Professor Toru Tanaka and Mr. Fuji, The Executioners, Ken Patera and Stan Stasiak, The Infernos and Gene and Ole Anderson."

After Zbyzsko left the WWWF he traveled to different territories meeting all comers. It was during his southern tour that he injured his back, not once but twice. This back injury kept him idle for several months. Larry still feels he could have done much better if his back injury had not occurred.

Then, in 1976, Larry journeyed to Southern California where his rising star took off. He soon won the TV Championship from Don 'The Fonz' Fargo. Larry kept this title for six months until The Hangman took it from him. During his stay in California, Larry had matches with the best of that area. Larry posted victories over Roddy Piper, Don Fargo, Scorpions I and II and Super Scorpion. Larry also teamed with popular Chavo Guerrero with much success.

Larry then found himself back in the WWWF area once more. The WWWF fans saw a vastly improved Larry Zbyzsko. This was soon evident in singles matches with both Executioners in which Larry posted victories. Larry also posted victories over veterans Gashouse Doug Gilbert, Baron Mikel Scicluna and Tor Kamata in singles matches.

Still it has been tag-team bouts where Larry has shown how his experience has paid off. Wrestlers such as Tony Garea, Bob Backlund, Ivan Putski, Chief Jay Strongbow, Billy White Wolf and Andre the Giant have asked for Larry as their partner and these fine wrestlers have enjoyed great success with Zbyzsko.

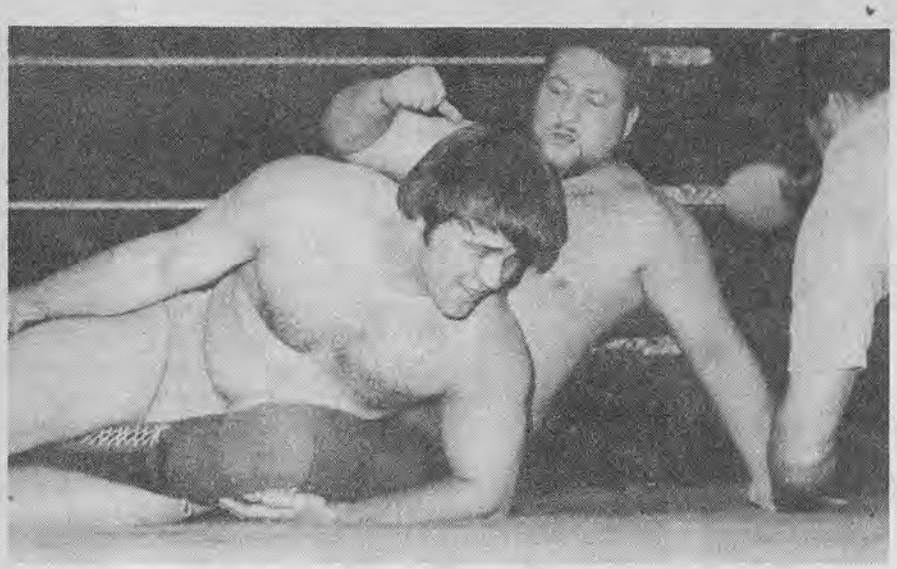
Tony Garea and Ivan Putski have teamed with Larry the most. With Ivan Putski billed as Polish Power and Larry as the Polish Prince. So far, teaming with Garea and Putski, Larry has gone undefeated in tag-team tussles.

Since Zbyzsko turned professional he always dreamed and hoped that some day he would wear the WWWF belt. That hope and dream seemed remote as long as Bruno Sammartino held the title but now, since 'Superstar' Billy Graham has emerged the new champion Larry's hope and dream seem nearer reality.

Larry did receive one title match against Superstar Graham in Worcester, Mass. Larry showed his true worth by giving Graham a rough time. Still it was Graham who had his hand raised in victory.

Larry says of this match, " I was somewhat nervous before the match. I knew what Graham could do but once the bell sounded I was fine. I think I gave Graham a good match. He may claim otherwise but I've nothing to be ashamed of. I would like a rematch. Graham hasn't seen the last of me."

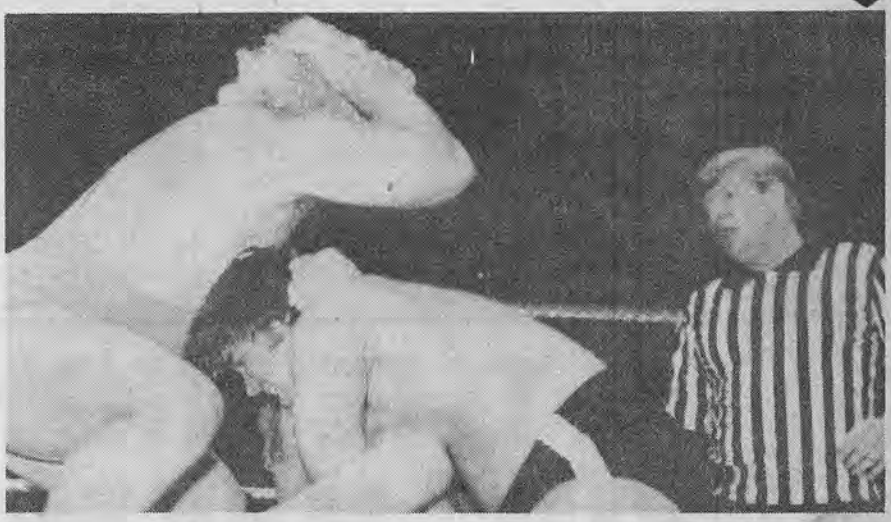
At 5-foot-11 and 245 pounds, Zbyzsko gives away height and weight to many opponents, but there it ends. He has raw power which is



was looked upon with disdain. Now his opponents look upon Larry with respect. This young man could very well be a future world champion. His dream of one day wearing the WWWF belt, like his idol Bruno Sammartino, may yet come true. His future looks bright indeed.

Larry Zbyzsko appears pleased with himself as he works on villain Hans Schroeder's leg, but the bad guy appears ready to either deliver a punch or yank Larry's hair in order to free himself.

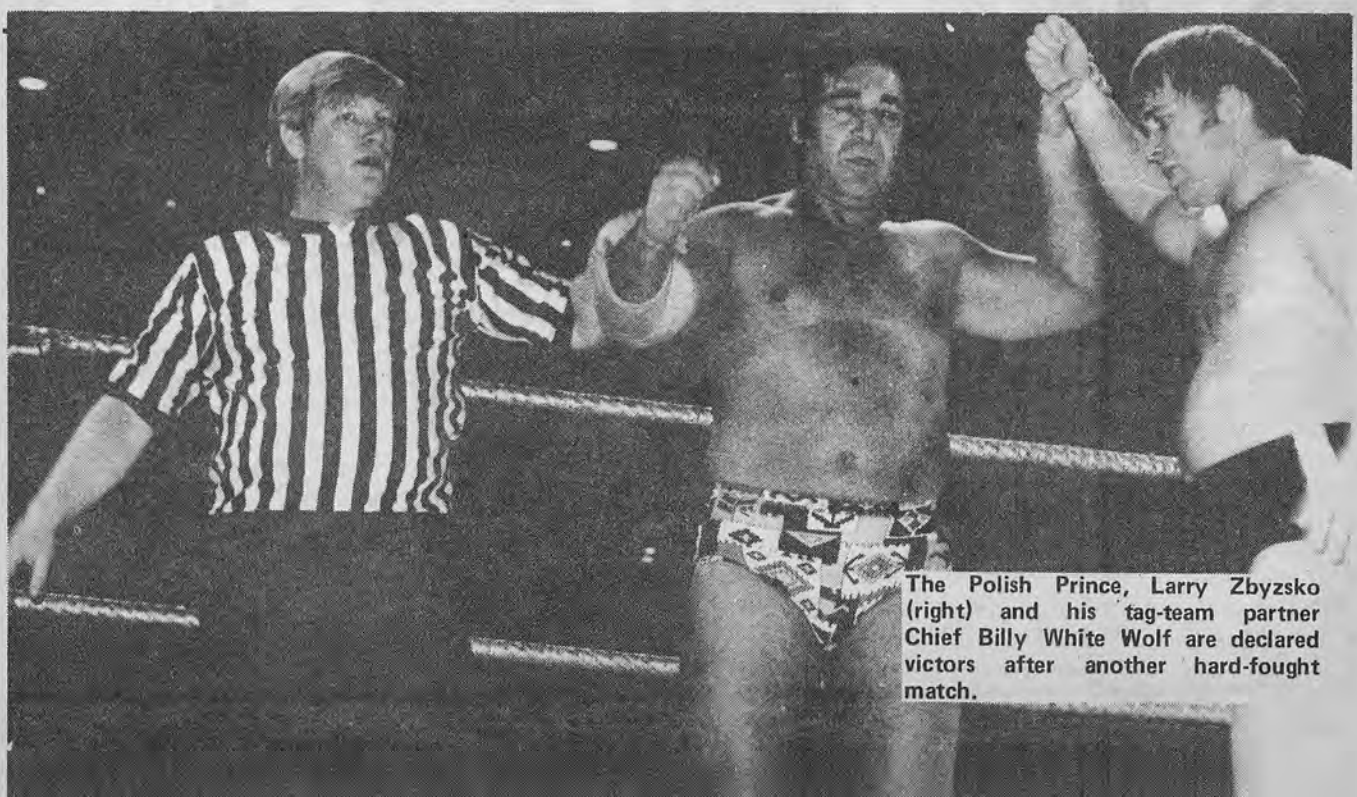
Larry Zbyzsko has former WWWF champion Stan Stasiak in dire straits, but Stasiak's tag-team partner Ken Patera comes to his aid with an elbow smash.



evident when he makes opponents submit with his bear hug and backbreaker. Both these holds were taught to him by Bruno who made them famous.

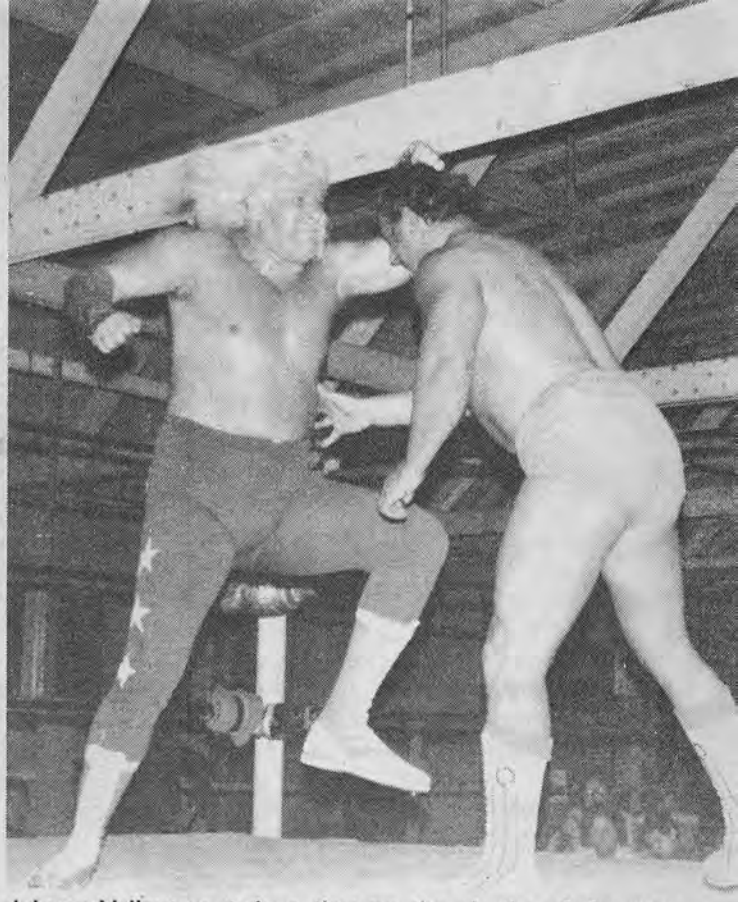
Says Larry, "Bruno taught me everything I know. He taught me these holds as only he could. He's the master. But I don't rely on these holds exclusively, I also use a suplex with great success. I like to wrestle by the book too, but I'm forced to get rough as my oponents get rough. Bruno has taught me never to turn the other cheek. When I first started I tried to hold my temper, now I fight fire with fire."

Larry Zbyzsko has come a long way. He's not the green rookie who



The Polish Prince, Larry Zbyzsko (right) and his tag-team partner Chief Billy White Wolf are declared victors after another hard-fought match.

Tony Garea and Tony Rocca knew they faced a tough task as they awaited their introduction prior to their tag-team match with the Valiants, Jimmy and Johnny.



Johnny Valiant wasted no time on the niceties of the grappling game as he stormed right out and fired punches at Tony Rocca.

THE NIGHT THE VALIANTS WON THEIR 'TONYS'

Photos by LARRY BARNHIZER

The Tony awards are presented annually to the top performers on the Broadway stage.

One night in Modesto, Calif., the Valiant brothers, Jim and John, set their sights on taking a couple of 'Tonys', namely Garea and Rocca.

When Garea and Rocca agreed to take on the Valiants for promoter Johnny Miller, most wrestling observers felt the Tonys were biting off more than they could chew as the Valiants have been one of the top tag-team combinations wherever they have appeared in the wrestling world.

The result bore these experts out, but Garea and Rocca acquitted themselves well before going down to defeat.

However, Larry Barnhizer's photographs tell the tale better. So, read on and you'll discover how the Valiants won their 'Tonys'.

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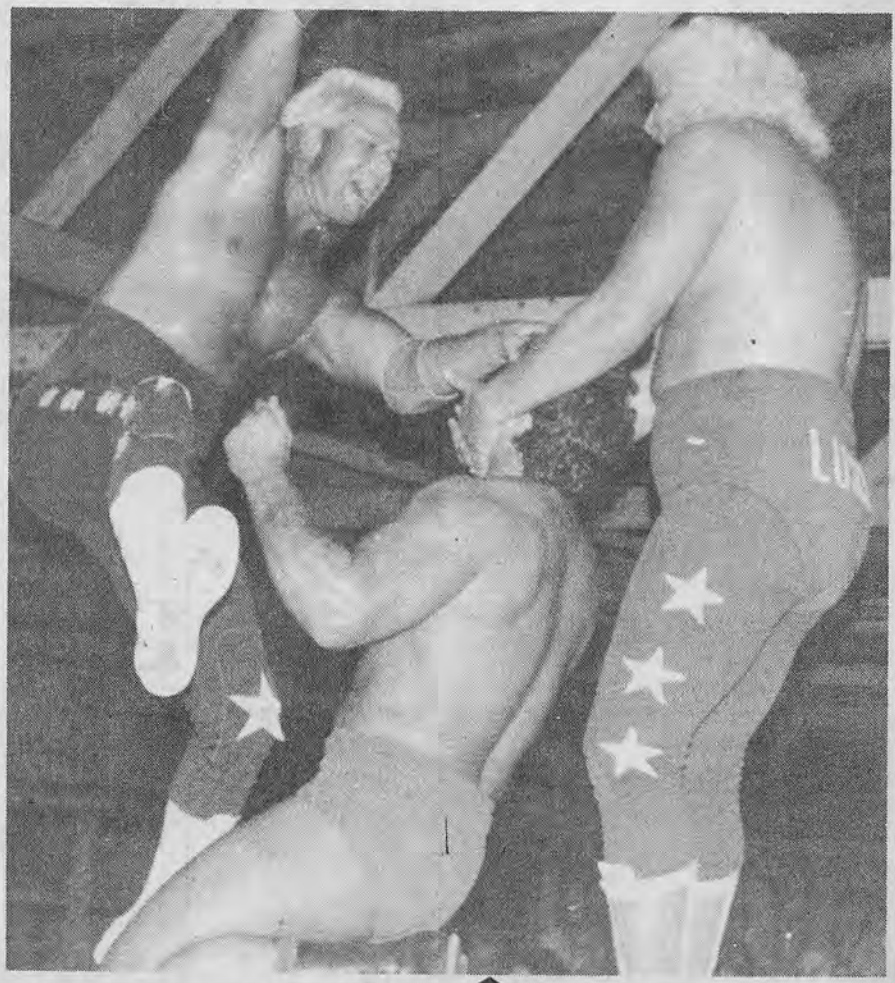
When Jimmy got into the ring after Johnny had softened Rocca up, he continued to give Tony a going-over with choke holds and other underhanded tactics.

Jim Valiant looks to his corner for some advice as he has Tony Garea in a vice-lock armlock.

A riled-up Rocca managed to get in a few licks of his own as here he's about to tag Johnny Valiant with a right to the jaw.



The Valiants have double-teaming down to an art as they demonstrate here. John holds Garea's head in place while Jim gets ready to unload an elbow smash to the face.

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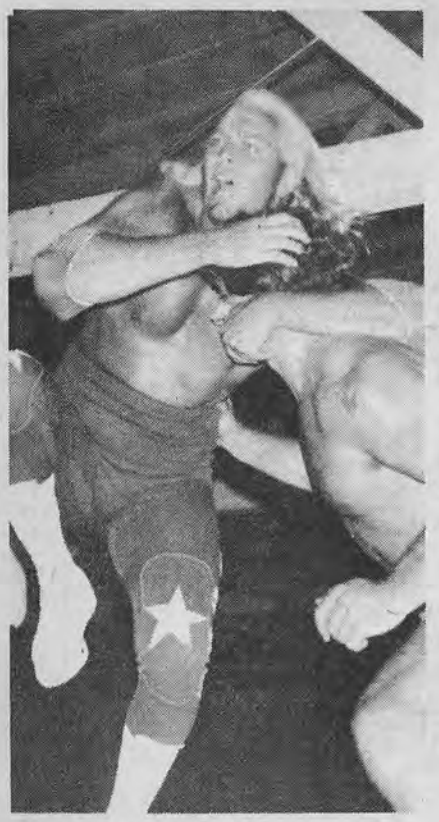
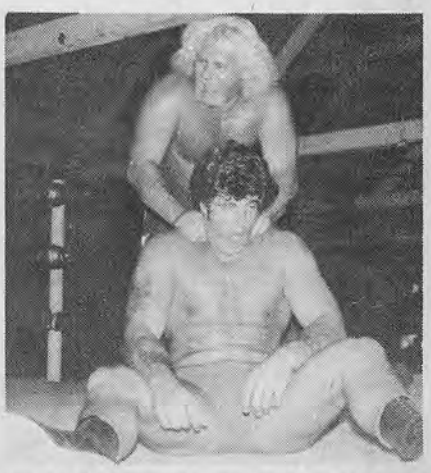
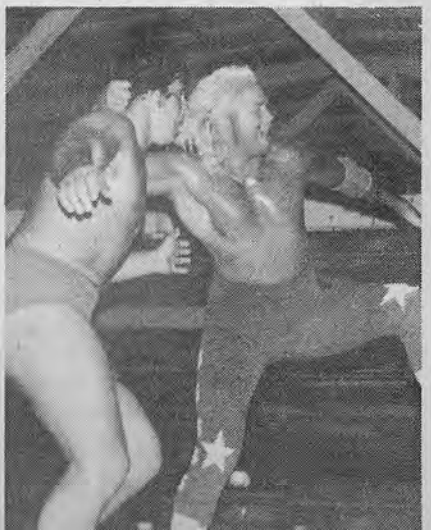


Tony Garea is about to free himself from a side headlock by throwing Jim Valiant across the ring. As Jim rebounded off the ropes, Garea caught him with a haymaker which sent Valiant to the canvas begging for mercy while John looked on unhappily.

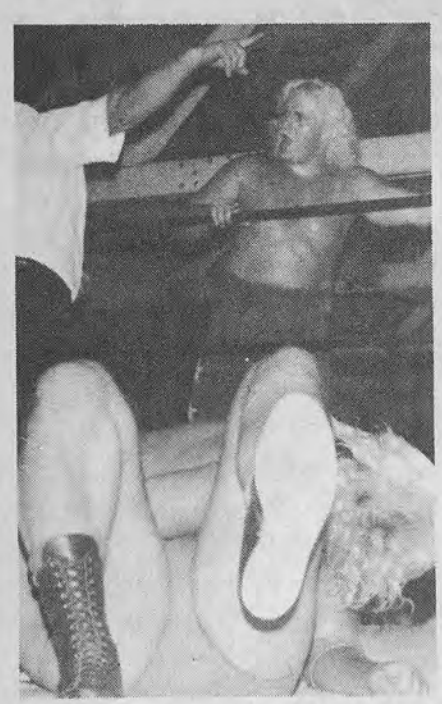
John Valiant attempts to end the match with a flying elbow smash here, but Tony Garea instinctively rolled out of harm's way and John wound up with an aching elbow.



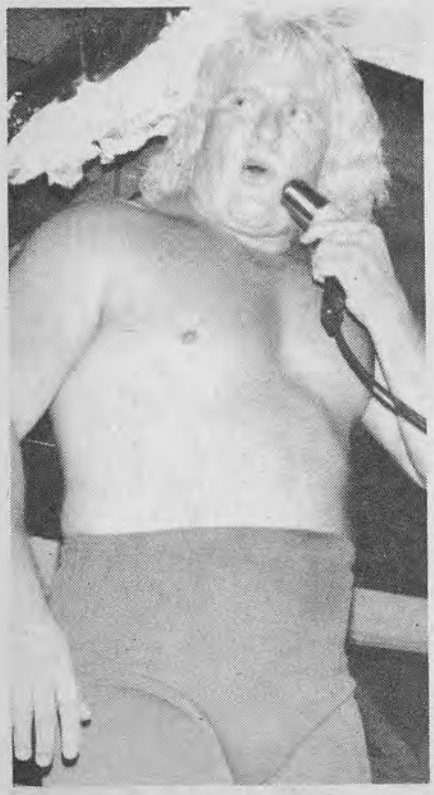
John Valiant seems to be enjoying his work as he sets Tony Garea up for the kill with a devastating nerve hold.



The Valiants team up to inflict more punishment on Tony Garea as Jim grabs Garea by the nape of the neck and is about to thrust him into the outstretched foot of John.



Here's another tactic the Valiants are well versed in. John distracts the referee while Jim proceeds to choke his opponent, in this case Tony Garea.



The smoke of battle has cleared, order has been restored and John Valiant takes advantage of the opportunity to take the microphone and tell the wrestling fans that the fabulous Valiants are not only beautiful but unbeatable.

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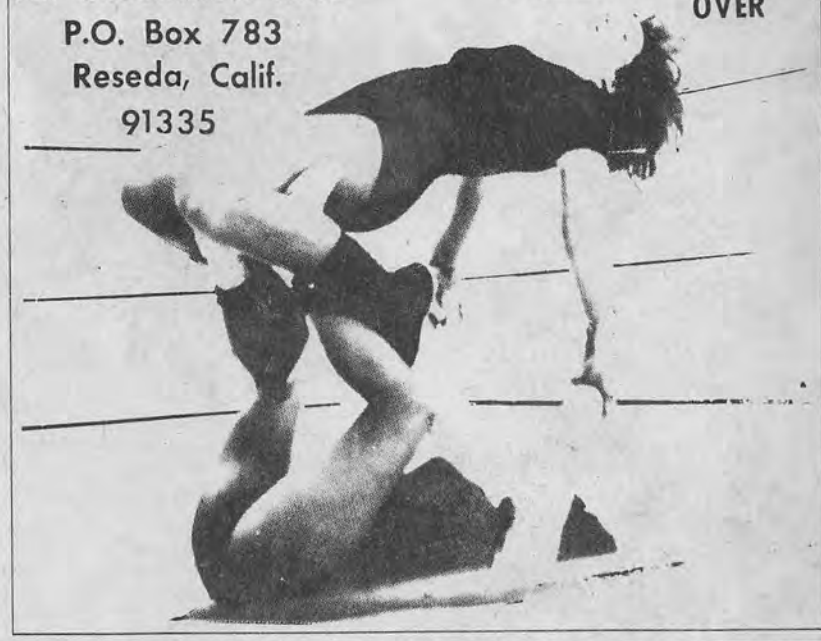

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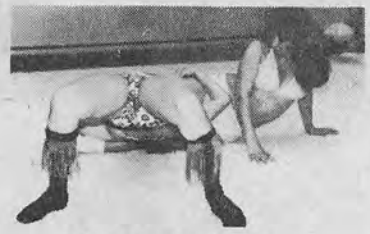

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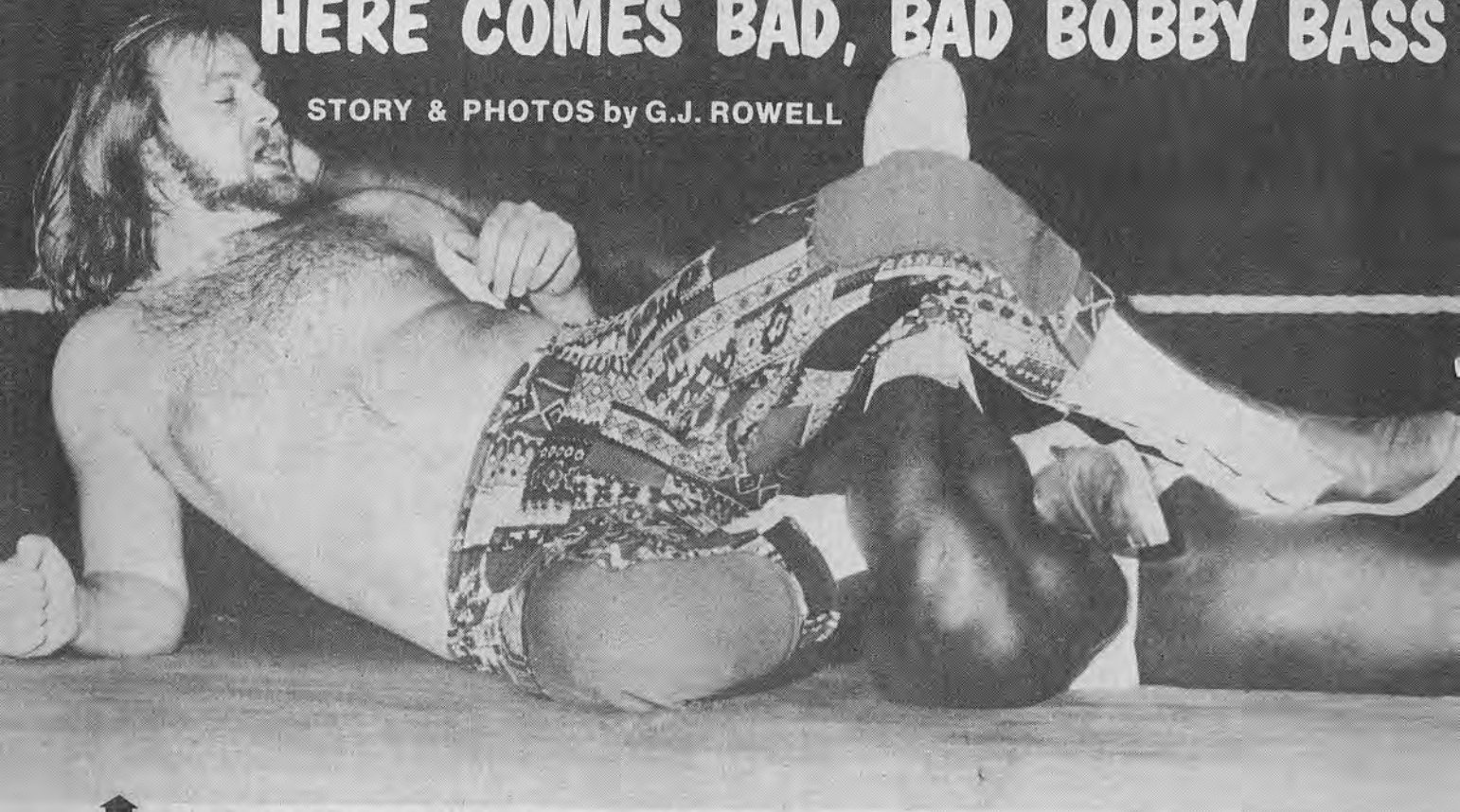
HERE COMES BAD, BAD BOBBY BASS

STORY & PHOTOS by G.J. ROWELL



Although there's nothing illegal about this hold being applied by Bobby Bass, he'll usually stop at nothing in his quest for victory.

Bad, bad Bobby Bass has only one grappling goal, to become the undisputed heavyweight champion of professional wrestling.

One of the fondest dreams of bad, bad, Bobby Bass is to wrestle before a standing room only crowd in Tibet!

Why Tibet, you say?

Because, it all fits into the grand scheme of Bobby Bass's plans for his wrestling future. His ultimate goal is to become the undisputed heavyweight champion of professional wrestling. And as the undisputed champion he plans to "defend the title against every worthy challenger from New York to Tibet! I will be the people's champion — they all love me!"

To become the undisputed wrestling champion is indeed a lofty goal to strive for — no one will dispute that. However, there is some dispute over Bobby's statement that "they

all love me!" Many wrestling fans that deplore dirty fighting will be the first to tell you that they hate Bobby Bass and look upon him as a despicable villain.

This view does not bother Bobby Bass however, for according to Bobby, "I consider myself a hero. Whenever I prance into the ring the female fans swarm to ringside chanting — 'We love Bobby! We love Bobby! We love Bobby!'. I have to agree with them — I am very sexy!" To further prove his point, Bobby brags of his legion of female fans fighting with each other just to spend some time with him out behind the arenas.

At six-foot-one, 235 pounds, this 27-year-old wrestler has built a solid base for shooting at the world heavyweight championship during the eight years that he has been a professional. He and his brother Donny Bass have shared United States tag-team championship honors. As a single, he captured the Canadian junior heavyweight championship from the crowd favorite Lionel Robert.

Bobby went against Robert and won the title belt in a hotly disputed contest that had the fans on their feet yelling about Bobby's illegal tactics and screaming for Bobby's head.

Bobby, however, quickly denies using any illegal or dirty tactics. He blames all of the illegal maneuvers on "Robert trying to make me look bad in front of the Canadian referee.

Although he once held a tag-team title with his brother Donny, Bobby Bass prefers to wrestle solo. However, when the need arises, Bobby Bass (right) often teams up with Chin Lee.

He was trying to get me disqualified in order to save his title, because he knew I had him outclassed!"

Bad, bad Bobby, sums up his philosophy with words of egotistical self-praise: "If you want to see wrestling that is first class, come to see the greatest wrestler alive — Bobby Bass!"

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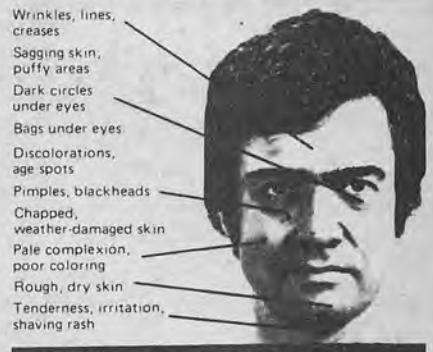

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GRAPPLING GLAMOR GIRL

BRENDA STARR

gossipin' ALONG WRESTLING'S grapevine

By EARLE YETTER

In the world of professional wrestling it appears from present indications that promoters and others behind the business are going all out to keep wrestling in its proper niche of the sports curriculum. When things seem to slow up, promoters will find ways and means of introducing new plans and even gimmicks to restore the interest for the fans who pay their way through the turnstiles of three continents.

Currently, we have a host of newcomers who have come into the business. Some of them seem to go all out in quest of victories, but one thing that seems to detract from some programs is when a big 300-pounder appears against a lad of 225 pounds. This condition should not be as it detracts from the sportsmanship and is unfair to the young eager lads who are trying to climb the ladder to success in their careers.

Lopsided matches should not be on the agenda of promoters, because they are a detriment to a business that has 2,000 years of tradition behind it. More even matches should be concocted and arranged so that pro wrestling can continue to attract the dyed-in-the-wool fans. When that happens then promoters will be supported in their endeavors.

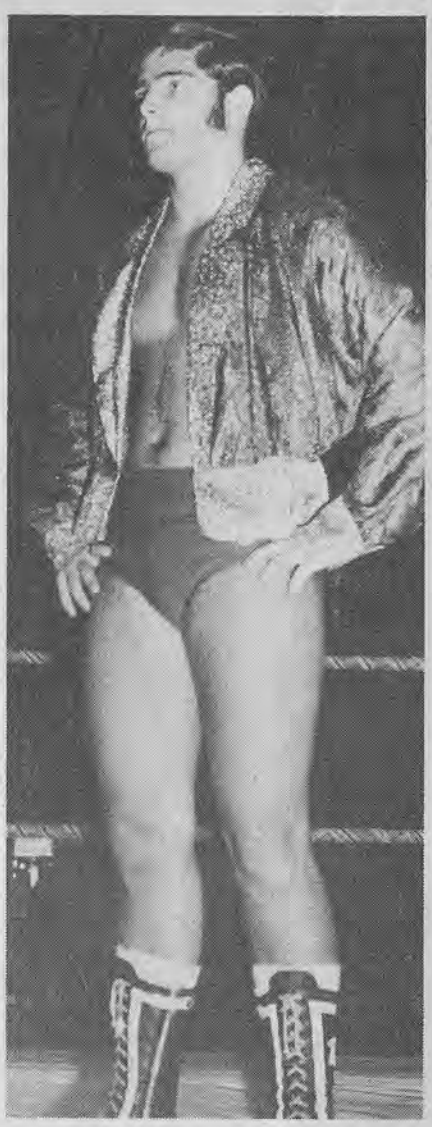
Promoters such as Frank Tunney in Toronto, Sandor Kovacs in Vancouver, Bob Luce in Chicago and Dean Silverstone in Seattle, Washington, are among those who seek to remove obstacles that can downgrade the sport in any way and they should be congratulated for taking such a worthy stand for the future well-being of pro wrestling. If other promoters would fall in line along with them then wrestling can go forward without any hitches.

Following the conclusion of World War II there developed among the sports fraternity a novel and exciting new twist to an old dodge. Wrestling had changed its apparel, and was decked out in a sparkling new outfit. The pre-war pachyderms, who had been strictly for the select and critical connoisseur, suddenly converted for the new generation of fans who had suddenly busted out all over the place.

The promoters and combatants, aware of this frenzied fanaticism, quickly capitalized and hastened the tempo and style by introducing new faces, new spectacles, new talent and new gimmicks and proceeded to put it on the new medium... television. This all resulted in the greatest mass movement of matches, clubs, promotion and competition the old Greco-Roman game ever knew.

Formerly a homebody, the lady of the house became a steady spectator. She even went further. She became a gladiator herself, an innovation which vastly increased interest among the more frustrated of the male species.

Midgets, too, got into the act and put on performances which were on a par with their normal-grown brethren. Then came the two-man tag team tussles, which was a device intended for continuous action with never a dull moment. So, wrestling did not sit still; it moved at a fast and accellerated pace. The results have been enormous and more than gratifying to participants, promoters and fans.



Young Raymond Rougeau is continuing the family tradition of grappling greatness, and appears to have a fine future in the wonderful world of wrestling.

Twenty-five years ago, there were only about 30 active wrestlers. Today, more than 2,000 wrestlers are active which is more than those engaged in organized baseball, and the list continues to grow. More than 100 arenas stage regular weekly shows and about 500 more are conducting occasional programs. More and more small small towns are scheduling shows where they have never been

held before.

Grateful for this golden opportunity to increase their personal exchequers, the athletes are keeping the bonanza alive by continually striving to inject more showmanship and drama into their performances, in order to maintain their current popularity with the hope of luring new fans through the turnstiles of three continents. Many viewers did not believe what they saw on their television screens so they hastened to the live matches to see the drama in person.

Statistics usually can't be disputed, and so it brings out the fact that more women attend wrestling matches than any other sporting event. In many instances boxing attendances are running a poor second to wrestling shows in those towns which stage these two sports on a regular basis.

In addition to talent and muscles, the wrestlers realize that a curious mixture of color, a dash of salt and a good slice of ham are necessary ingredients for continued appeal and, brother, there are very few sparing the horses these days. So long as those behind the sport of pro wrestling give the kind of matches the fans want to see, then wrestling is here to stay, that's all.

******

Young Raymond Rougeau of Montreal is one of the fastest-rising stars on the mat firmament at the present time. Trained by Jacques Rougeau, his father, and Johnny Rougeau, his uncle and a promoter in Montreal, young Raymond has only one way to travel in his mat career and that is... up. He has a series of victories over heavier opponents, but he brings them down to the mat with as fast a dropkick as one would care to witness. Young Rougeau will be watched with more than just a passing fancy in his future mat endeavors. He is star material from head to foot.

For a time Raymond teamed with his father Jacques in tag team tussles and they became tag-team champions of the National Wrestling Federation. Raymond was designated as the rookie of the year and in single matches became the light-heavyweight champion of that Alliance. And so, in Raymond Rougeau's case — 'A Star Is Born.'

******

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One of the greatest wrestlers to come out of Japan is Kinji Shibuya, and expert in judo, karate and other Oriental attacks. Kinji wanted to become a wrestler when he was only eight years old. He watched performances in the gym and set about the project of hardening his body to withstand the hardships of amateur wrestling. In a few months he became proficient in learning the fundamentals of the trade he wanted to follow for his livelihood.

When Shibuya came into the pro ranks, he defeated many of the reigning stars with karate and judo assaults that bordered on massacres. In public demonstrations he could cut three pine boards to pieces with a blow of the side of his hand. Imagine then the results of that hand upon human flesh. He proved to be an enigma of all of his opponents and anyone who faced him knew they would be in for a night of frustration and despair.

One match which stands out in the memory of the writer was the night Shibuya faced Pat O'Connor, the NWA Champion in Buffalo, N.Y. For 15 minutes the advantage swung from one to the other. Getting O'Connor on the ropes Shibuya started to deal out devastating karate chops and appeared to have weakened the champion. When Shibuya refused to release a hold the referee called a 'choke' Shibuya was disqualified and lost the opportunity of wearing the world championship belt.

There are many who feel that Shohei Baba has also become a favorite of fans here. but Shibuya has demonstrated that he can take care of any opponent he faces these days and that puts him in the group of contenders for world championship honors.

Mrs. Alex Mulcovich, wife of a former wrestler, is one of the fanatical fans who make wrestling such an enjoyable spectator sport. She delights in bawling out the referee when he lets a villain take advantage of his opponent.

******

You can say what you want, but The Sheik who fights like a man from another world, continues to be the most controversial wrestler in the business. His continued battles with Bobo Brazil, both of whom have been the United States champion, are personal vendettas in which plenty of claret is spilled during the course of their battles.

First, Bobo Brazil wears the U.S. belt and then The Sheik takes it away from him. In rematches Brazil again assumes the throne and The Sheik knocks him off of it and so we have a round-robin series of matches which sees a change of champions repeatedly.

Under the guidance of two managers, Abdullah Farouk and Eddie Creachman, The Sheik is always capable of coming up with new assaults that bring him many victories. His use of fire in the faces of opponents has sidetracked a half dozen opponents including Lord Athol Layton, Pampero Firpo, Johnny Valentine, Tony Marino and others. It is a violent maneuver that many feel should be banned, but The Sheik says it is up to his opponents to defend themselves against it. What the future holds for Bobo Brazil and The Sheik remains to be seen, because it appears that their feud will continue.

******

For those in Canada who may be interested in attending wrestling schools, here are three schools that can be recommended to them. Ronald (Bull) Johnson runs a school known as the Shamrock Boystown, Inc., 213 James St. North, Hamilton, Ont., L8R 2L2.

Dewey Robertson, prominent tag team partner of Billy (Red) Lyons, has a school in Burlington, Ontario. Ask anyone in that town where his gym is and they will tell you.

Another school tabbed as Mr. Fitness is located on 30 Baywood Road in Rexdale, Ontario, Canada, M9V 3Z2. So, those who are interested in getting amateur wrestling experience with the idea of perhaps going to the professional ranks later are

invited to take advantage of these schools.

******

Yes, there are all kinds of people in a wrestling audience. You have heard of Hat Pin Mary who made herself obnoxious by sticking her hat pin into the bodies of wrestlers as they walked down the aisle to the ring. Fans like Mrs. Alex Mulcovich who goes out of her way to inform the referee about unruly wrestlers taking advantage of their opponents while the referee's back is turned. They are the excitable people who make up an audience at a wrestling show and you've got to admit they can make things lively with their shenanigans.

******

A Japanese throne was once the spoils of a wrestling win. In 858 A.D. Emperor Bonruku's two sons both aspired to the throne. It was decided that the victor in a wrestling match would ascend as the rightful ruler. Koreshino won, and climbed on the throne simply because he was a better wrestler than his brother.

Contrary to popular belief, women wrestlers were nothing new. Go back to the year 1280 in fact — back to the lovely Tartar princess, Aijerac, who was the champ of all the ladies. The king and queen, her parents, wanted Aijerac to enjoy connubial bliss, just like anyone else since the world began. But Aijerac was different. She didn't particularly want a husband... she just wanted to wrestle.

In order to settle a family argument, Aijerac finally consented to marry any swain who could throw her in a wrestling match. To make it a sporting proposition, she stipulated that if she won, any aspiring lothario must forfeit 100 horses. Well, the boys came from far and near. One by one anxious suitors attempted to win the lovely maiden by pinning her to the mat. In thrilling exhibitions she outfoxed and defeated all the male opponents, so she collected her horses but there is no record that the stubborn lady ever got married... however you have to admit she was quite a wrestler.

******

Few, indeed, are the grapplers who do not have in their repertoire one special grip, one favorite hold they use more frequently and with

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ultimate success than any other. The really outstanding wrestler, of course, does not depend upon one hold, but has a different grip to meet each situation in a match. But virtually every matman has one particular paralyzer, and even if he doesn't deliver it as the coup de grace, it is his favorite or pet hold and is his strongest offensive weapon.

This has applied through all the years of wrestling — with the old-time strong men, just as with the modern crop, who have to develop speed, more than power, in order to meet today's fan demands.

For instance, Lou Thesz, who was world champion on six different occasions, has a vast assortment of lethal locks but is deadliest with his crotch hold and spin and his leaping flying scissors hold... The late Antonino Rocca, who was an athletic marvel, was an expert with his flying barefoot dropkick.

Primo Carnera knew how to use his weight to advantage in applying his devastating body slam for many victories.

Whipper Billy Watson concocted his Canadian Avalanche hold which was his own version of the 'sleeper hold.'

Nanjo Singh, a Hindu, certainly knew his reptiles and his cobra hold had plenty of venom. He offered $1,000 to anyone who could break the hold and claimed he had a difficult time getting opponents because of it. Jim Landos succeeded in breaking the hold and almost broke Singh into pieces when he flipped him from the ring.

Jack Terry proved his careful study of anatomy by the use of the judo chop, a subtle maneuver apllied with the edge of the hand, and his Japanese sleeper, which shuts off his opponents flow of blood when pressure is applied to the carotid artery with the palm of his hand.

Dutchman Henry Piers made full use of the half nelson and flying body scissors, while Rudy Kay was a body-slammer from the old school.

Frank Sexton, credited with inventing 40 holds on occasions still

Kinji Shibuya is one of the greatest Japanese gladiators of all time and is considered a title threat for the various world champions.

pulls the giant swing from out of the mothballs when the end is imminent.

Then there was Lord Carlton and Marvin Mercer who were drop-kick specialists, while Buddy Rogers drove his colleagues to the mat with his unique pile-driver.

Strangler Ed Lewis' headlock was a fearsome weapon, while Joe Stecher mastered the body scissors.

Earl Caddock, all reports to the contrary, invented the flying tackle, while Gus Sonnenberg used it almost exclusively.

Toots Mondt was an armlock annoyer and a feared opponent was Jim Londos and his painful Boston Crab, perhaps the most painful of all holds, along with his Japanese leg lock and armlock.

John Pesek's backslam frightened prospective opponents, while Everett Marshall's airplane spin left them silly. Danny O'Mahoney's Irish whip came right from the old country and Dick Shikat made them shiver with his crotchhold.

The writer has given you readers a composite picture of the holds used by some of the oldtimers along with those still being used by present day performers.

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When writing in for wrestling, wrestlers and wrestlers photos, kindly enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope for your replies. This is a courtesy on your part because of my huge volume of mail, and the cost of postage.

The writer has 400 wrestlers' pictures in both posed and action shots. Anyone interested in obtaining my picture catalogue of their favorite wrestlers are requested to send a self-addressed, stamped envelope and the catalogue will be forwarded to you. So long for now, and take care of yourself.

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WRESTLING

By CHAMP THOMAS

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Wrestling MONTHLY'S MAIL CALL

MORE ON STASIAK

Dear Sirs:

You mentioned in your July issue of Wrestling Monthly that you would like to hear what your readers would like to see in future issues.

I, personally, would be interested in knowing more about the wrestlers themselves. Things like their outside interests, such as music, places they like to visit, as well as their ages and maritial status.

I am particularly interested in Stan Stasiak. By the way, thank you for your recent story on Mr. Stasiak. I'm glad you made him seem like a real person instead of an idiot like I've seen other magazines do.

I can't believe that some people are so into these men's ring images that they forget that they are human.

I expect to see a lot of Jan Nelson soon. I feel he has improved quite a bit in just the past few months. He has the ability, I just hope he isn't ruined by the World Wide Wrestling Federation.

I'm glad to see the overrated 'legend' (Bruno Sammartino) lose the title, but I really expected Ken Patera to be the new champ. However, anyone is better than the 'legend'.

Sorry if this ran too long, but these are my views. Thanks for listening. Please have more on Stasiak and Nelson. Thanks again.

I would also like my name to appear in your pen pals column.

Name: Elaine L. Brutosky
Age: 20
Address: 5913 Shisler Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 19149
Favorite wrestler: Stan Stasiak.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Many thanks for your letter. Unfortunately, it isn't always possible to get in-depth stories on professional wrestlers as some of them are very secretive about their life outside of the wrestling world. Thanks for your suggestions and hopefully we can fulfill your requests in the not too distant future.

******

Chief Jay Strongbow

KUDOS FOR GORDON

Dear Mr. Noble:

I picked up the July issue of Wrestling Monthly and I must say it was one of the best issues of your magazine that I have ever read. All because of Gene Gordon's photos. I also liked the centerfold of Donna Christianello.

What I'm trying to say is that I am a lady wrestling fan and I would like to see more features like that every month.

Mr. Gordon's photos are so good that they let you relive the wrestling match all over again.

Sincerely yours,
John Fornillo
Baldwin, N.Y.

******

Ric Flair

Dear Mr. Noble:

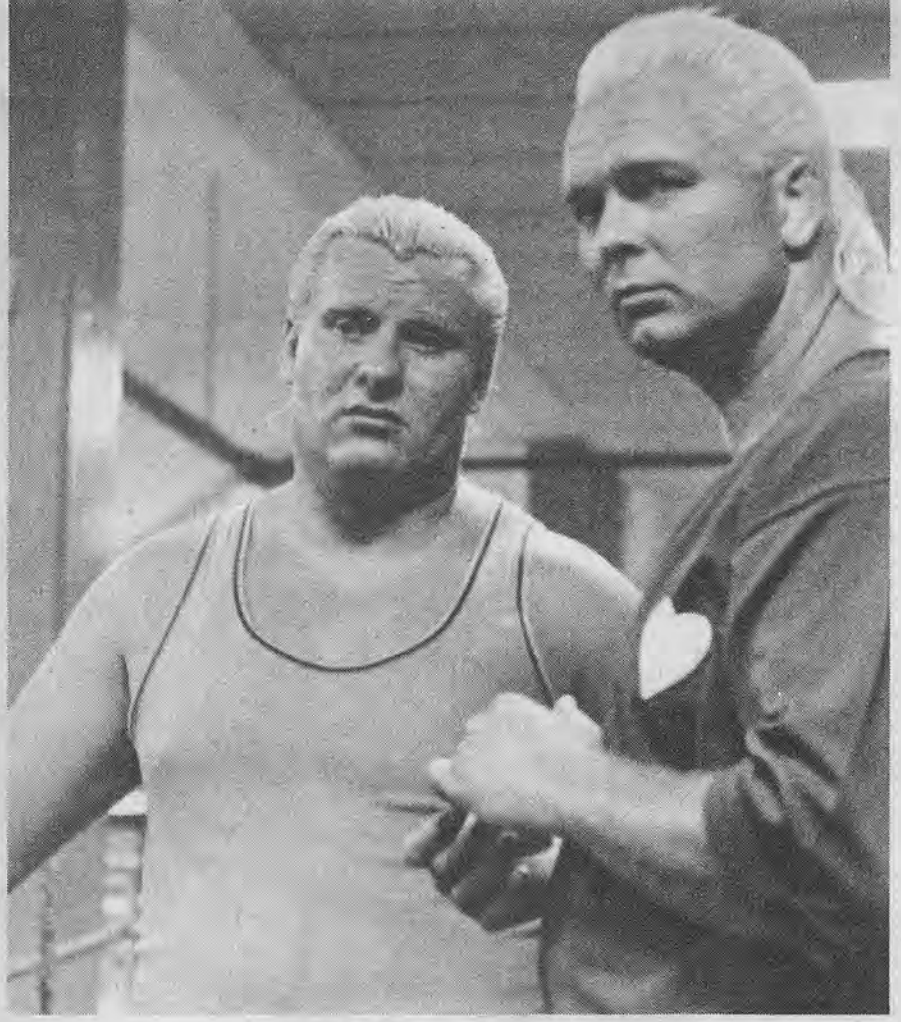
I am writing to tell you how much I like your magazines.

I especially like the feature called 'Gordon's Grapplin' Gems'. I look forward to this feature every time I buy your magazine.

I hope to see more features in your magazine by Gene Gordon.

Sincerely,
Gail Morris
Charlottesville, Va.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: We are indeed fortunate to have a top-notch wrestling photographer like Gene Gordon on the staff of Wrestling Monthly and its sister publications, Big Book of Wrestling and Wrestling Revue. I trust both Gail and John will enjoy Mr. Gordon's excellent photographs in this issue (Mixed Matches Mean Mayhem, Page 14, and the regular Gordon's Grapplin' Gems on Page 51).



The Valiant Brothers

TOPLESS WRESTLERS A DISGRACE

Dear Sirs:

I am a 14-year-old kid with a lot on my mind.

First of all, I think topless girl wrestlers are a disgrace to the great sport of wrestling (Wrestling Monthly, Feb., 1977). If the people want to see wrestling they should go to an arena and see respected men and women. If they don't want to see wrestling, they should go to a striptease show.

If fans agree, they can write to me at my address below and give me their opinions.

I would also like some information on how to become a wrestler. I jog three miles a day and work out with weights because I want to be a wrestler some day.

I have trouble with my friends who say wrestling is fake, even my parents say it is fake but I know better.

I hope Wrestling Monthly keeps giving its readers great stories.

Yours truly,
Rob Ploughman
101 Macdonald Drive
Aurora, Ontario

P.S. I would like to hear from fans who love wrestling.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: As far as wanting to become a professional wrestler, Rob, I might suggest that you contact the promoter in your area and ask if there are any wrestling schools or gymnasiums in your vicinity where you might learn more about the art of wrestling. Of course, you might get involved in amateur wrestling on the high school and college level in the future as a successful amateur wrestling career has paved the way for many professionals.)

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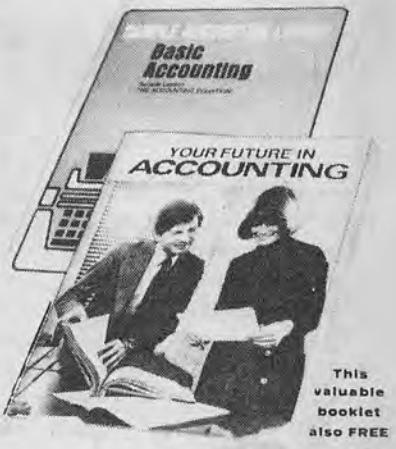

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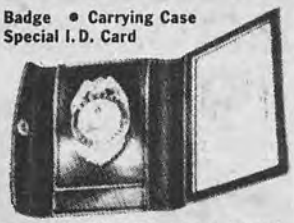

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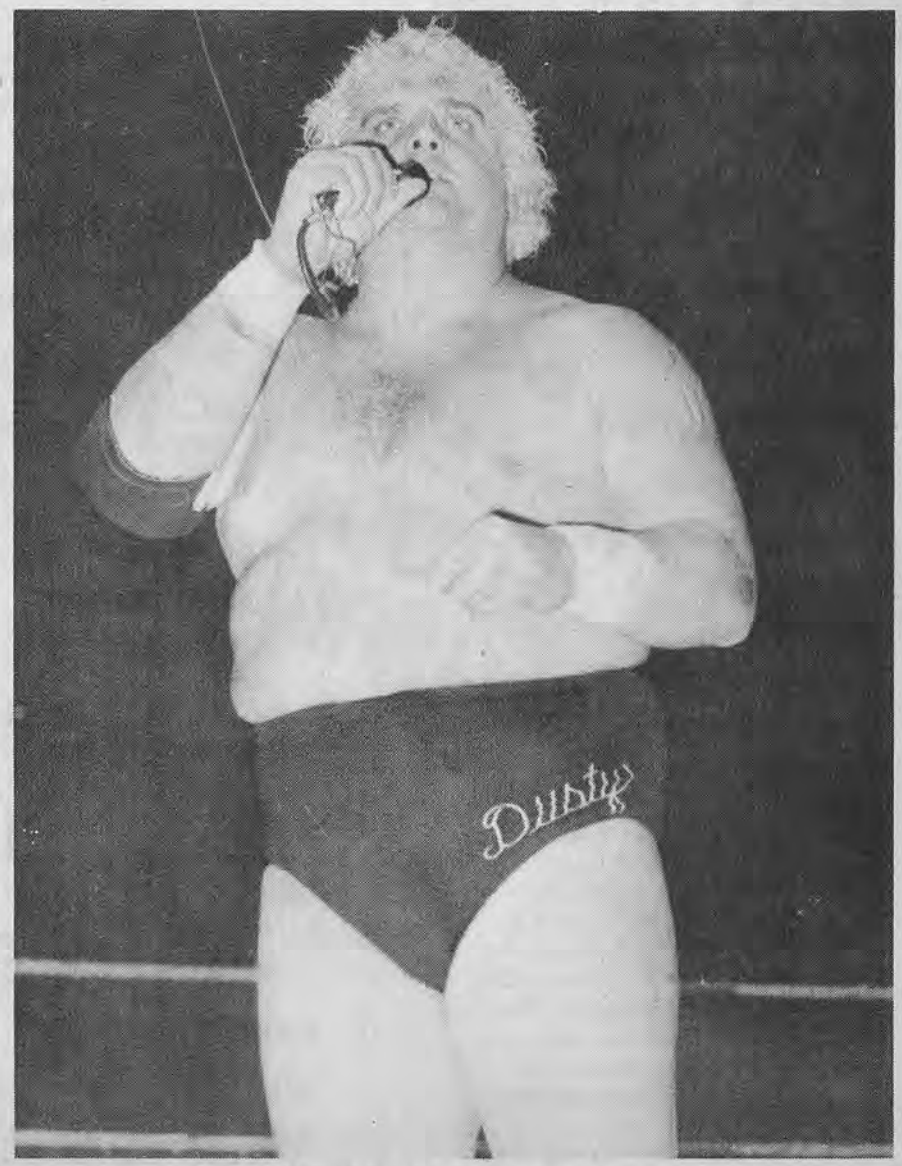
MIDWEST MAT NEWS

By KEVIN KRON

The big news around the Midwest is the return of the 'American Dream', DUSTY RHODES. Rhodes says his main reason for entering the Detroit and Ohio area is to seek a title match with the current United States Champion, THE SHEIK.

"That's right, baby, I've returned," Dusty commented. "I hear so much about the Sheik. He ain't nothing compared to the 'Dream'. When I get into the ring against the Sheik, I'm gonna give him the whoppin' of his life! 'Motown' Rhodes will emerge with the belt and then I'm gonna party with my fans all night



"I'm here to give The Sheik the whoppin' of his life," Dusty Rhodes tells Midwest fans.

long!"

The Sheik and his manager EDDIE CREACHMAN are hesitant to grant Dusty the match. "Who is Dusty Rhodes?" Creachman screamed. "My great and noble champion has no time for this bum. If Dusty Rhodes expects to fight my man he will have to prove his worthiness in the ring."

Without a doubt, Rhodes has proved his worthiness in the ring to every Midwest wrestling fan. He has faced such names as the SPOILER, TRAITOR HAMPTON, WILDMAN, DENNY ALBERTS and KURT VON HESS, and has whipped them into submission within one minute. As Dusty put it, "These men are just stepping stones toward my encounter with the Sheik."

The National Wrestling Alliance tag-team championship belts can still be found around the waists of RIPPER COLLINS and LUKE GRAHAM. This vicious duo works extremely well together and have successfully defended their titles against many top-ranked teams from around the world.

"We've injured so many men lately that we can't find any teams brave enough to step into the ring with us," Collins said. With the impressive record this team holds, it may be some time before they are stripped of the belts.

TONY MARINO has surprised the wrestling world by no longer wrestling according to the rules. Marino has turned into a cruel, unpredictable madman who will rely on anything to win his bouts. Tony has yet to be pinned since changing his beliefs in the squared circle. He has defeated such noted men as DOMINIC DENUCCI, MIGHTY IGOR, CHARLIE COOK, HANK JAMES, and TONY PARISI.

"I learned if you can't beat 'em, join 'em," Marino stated. "I was tired of always receiving the punishment. Now it's my turn to dish it out. I finally came to my senses and realized that wrestling according to the rules doesn't get you anywhere. From now on it won't be me who will have to be stitched up after a match, it's gonna be my unfortunate opponent."

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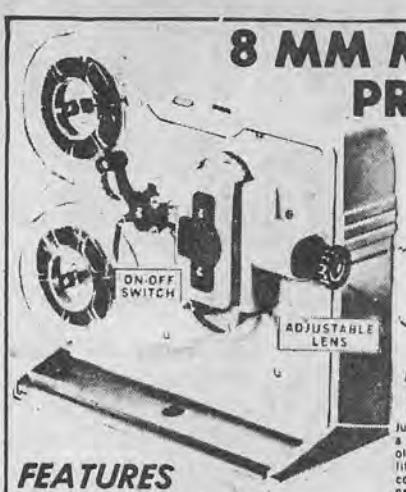

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The Sheik, shown entering the ring with one of his few friends, a snake, has shown a reluctance to give Dusty Rhodes a crack at his United States championship.

Gino Hernandez pulled off one of the year's biggest upsets when he dethroned Don Kent — shown here in a side headlock — to win the U.S. title. Although The Sheik cut Gino's reign short, Hernandez has youth on his side and is a good bet to wear the championship belt again.

Luke Graham sports his NWA tag-team championship belt as he is about to enter the ring for another night of mat mayhem. Graham and Ripper Collins have formed a successful combination.

Opera lover Tony Parisi (right) used to limit his singing to the dressing room, but now he does his singing in the ring too.

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Two of the vilest villains in the grappling game, Abdullah The Butcher and The Sheik are double trouble when they team up for a tag-team match. Here, the Sheik holds Dick The Bruiser while Abdullah is about to deliver a right to The Bruiser's blood-stained forehead.

Tony Marino used to be one of the most popular and proficient scientific grapplers in the business, but has turned over a new leaf and is now a bad guy as this photo shows Marino planting his foot in his opponent's throat while using the ropes for leverage.

U.S. championship when he stunned the experienced DON KENT. Since then, Gino has dropped his title to the SHEIK.

"When I pinned Don Kent to win the belt, I thought it was all a dream. When I was handed the belt I knew all my hard training had been well worth it." Undoubtedly, a bright future lies ahead for this overnight sensation.

Fans are still talking about the wild tag-team brawl that took place when ABDULLAH THE BUTCHER teamed up with THE SHEIK to go against the powerhouse team of DUSTY RHODES and DICK THE BRUISER. Dusty and Dick controlled the majority of the action, opening wounds across the Sheik and Butcher's foreheads. It wasn't too long after this that the two rulebreakers exited the ring, never to return.

Bruiser was unhappy with the decision, but pleased with the pain he and Dusty inflicted to the Sheik and Butcher."We showed them what viciousness really was," Bruiser boasted. "We fought fire with fire and everyone saw what we did to their foreheads. It'll be some time before they think of accepting a match with me and Dusty."

IVAN KOLOFF, the 'Russian Bear', is demanding better competition. Recently after pulverizing an opponent into defeat, Koloff pleaded with the promoter to book him against main-event material.

"Koloff want Bruiser. Koloff want Brazil. Koloff want Rhodes. Koloff want DeNucci. Koloff want everyone!"

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With the likes of the Sheik, Kent, Rhodes, Bruiser, Koloff, and many, many others, it's no wonder Midwest arenas are reporting record crowds.

GORDON'S grapplin' gems

PHOTOS by GENE GORDON

Interns are future doctors, but wrestling's Interns attempt to hurt rather than heal. Here, the white-cowled Interns pose for a picture with their masked manager Dr. X.

They are not only the largest set of twins in the grappling game but in the entire world. They are the one and only McGuire twins, Benny (left) and Billy.

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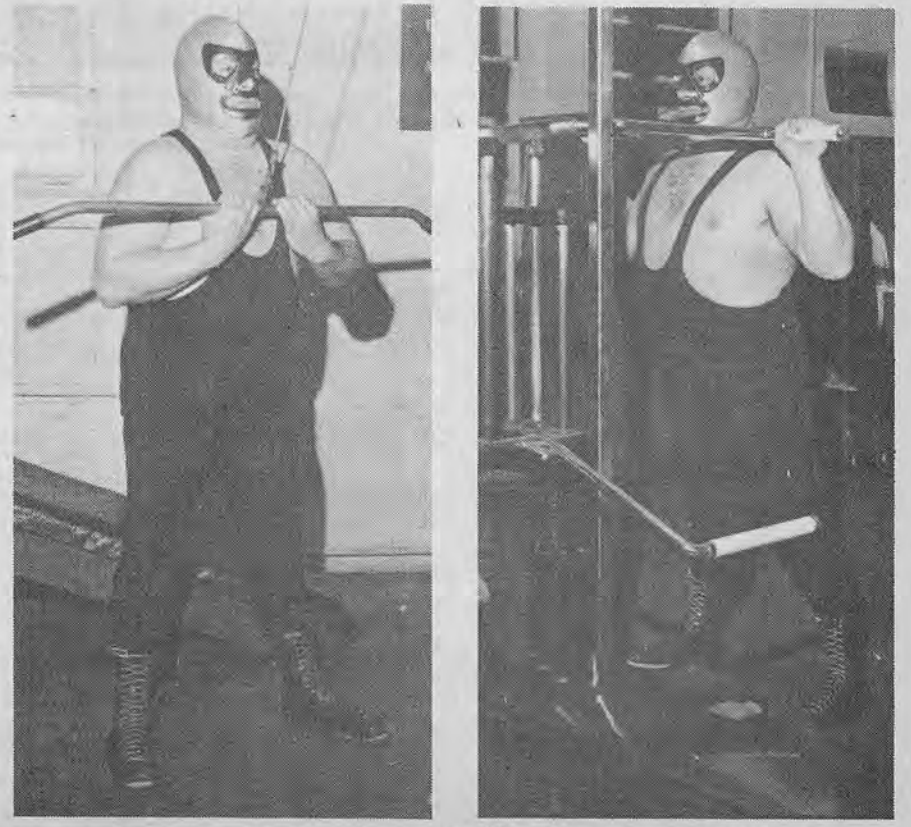
GORDON'S grapplin' gems

PHOTOS by GENE GORDON

The Interns probably feel the weight of the world is resting on them and rightfully so as 747-pound Benny McGuire and his 727-pound twin brother Billy sit on the masked men.



Conditioning is important for all professional wrestlers. Here the Golden Gladiator works out in the gym in preparing for an important match.

Johnny Powers grabs the ropes and waits for the referee to order a break as an enraged Bulldog Brower has him in a headlock.

"Mirror, mirror in my hand, who is the fairest in the land," Hartford Love appears to be saying as he looks at himself in the mirror.

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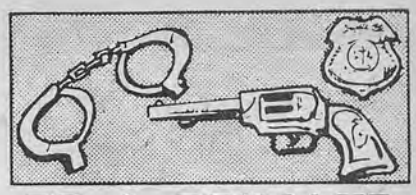

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GORDON'S grapplin' gems

PHOTOS by GENE GORDON

Two popular performers wherever they appear are Mighty Igor (left) and Nick DeCarlo.

Jeannie Harrell applies the pressure of a side headlock on her opponent Sandy Partlow.

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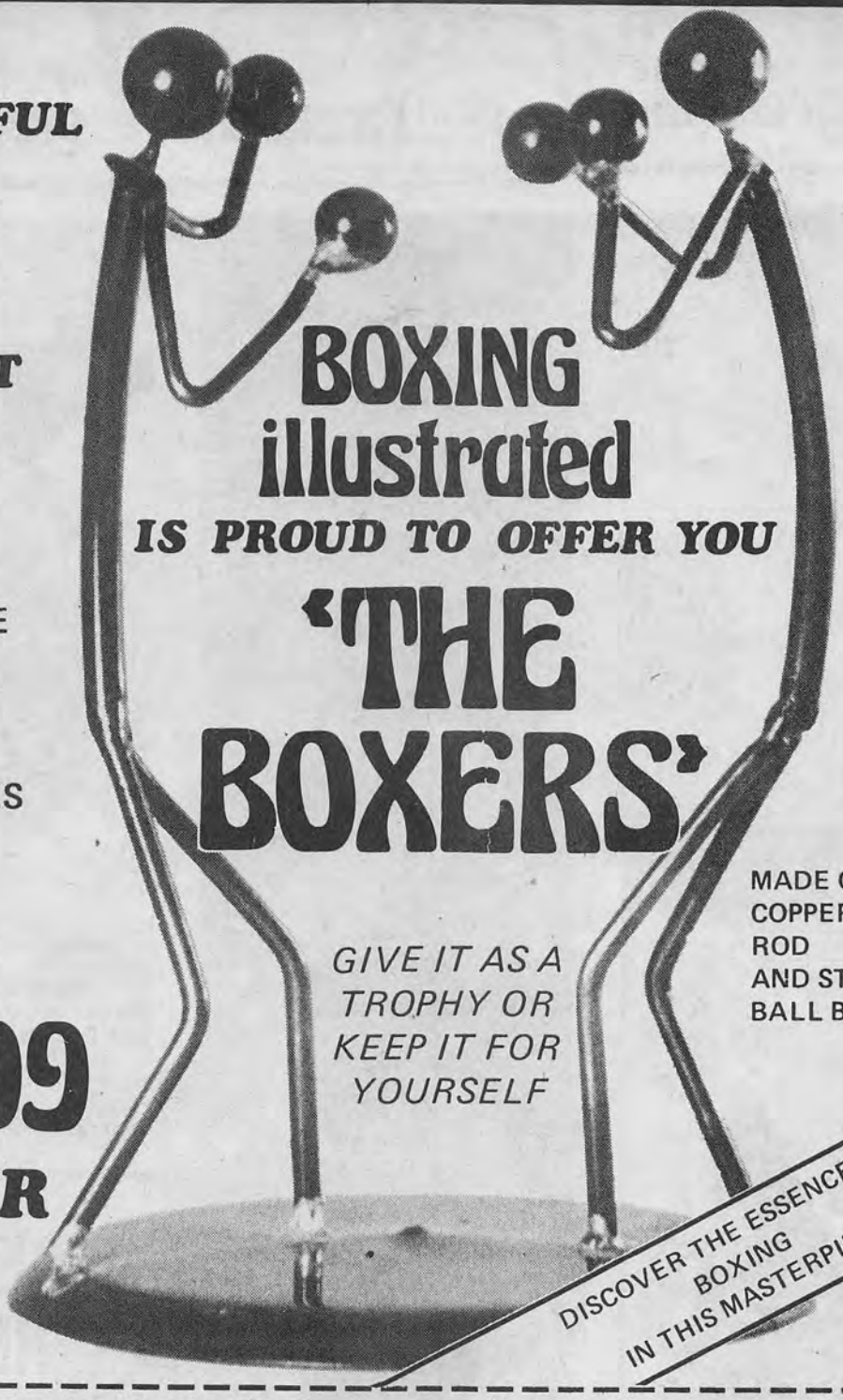

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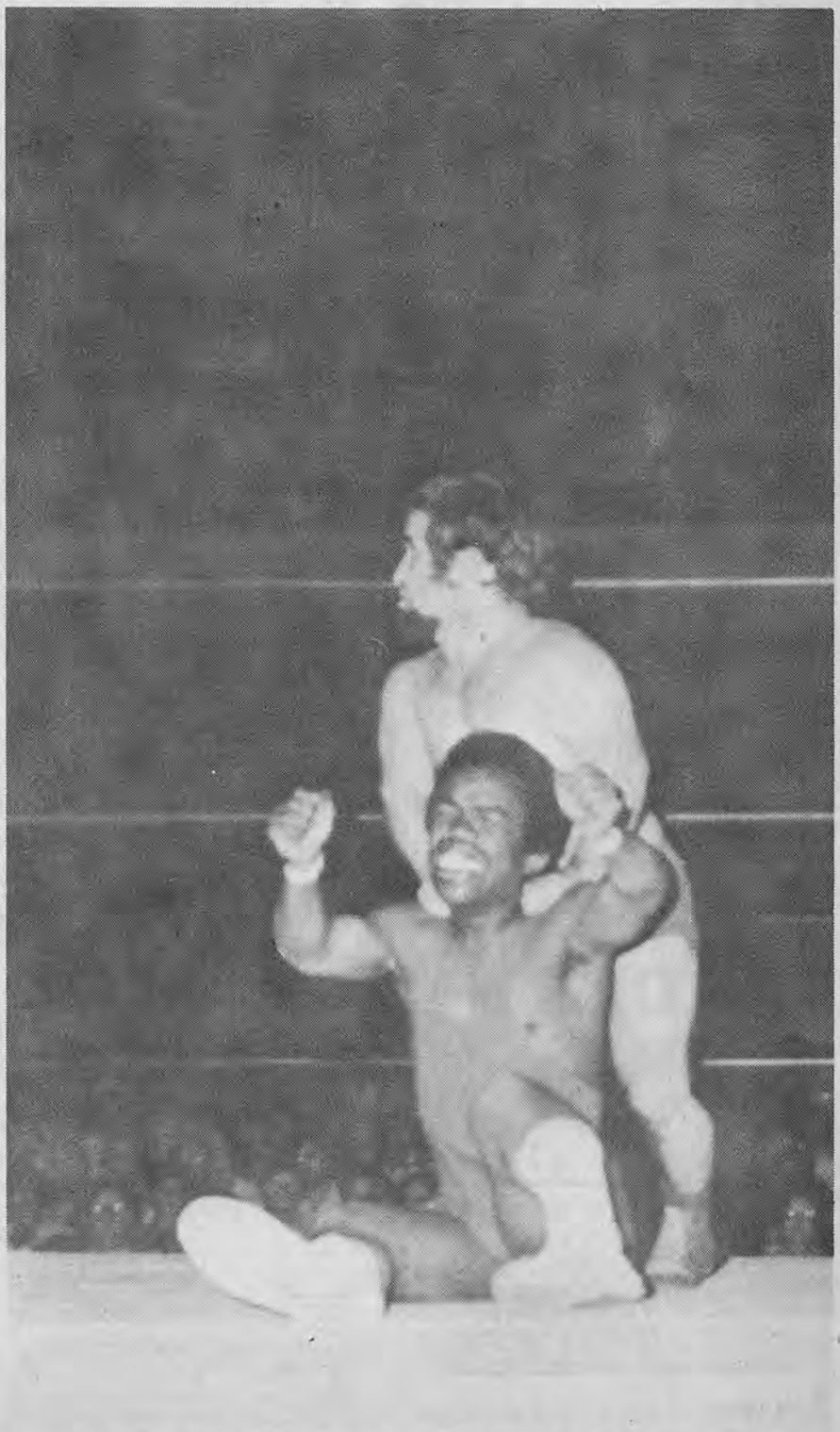
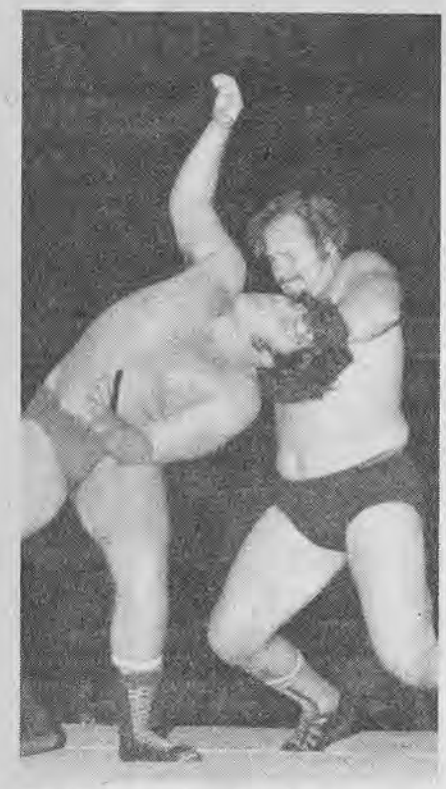
GORDON'S grapplin' gems

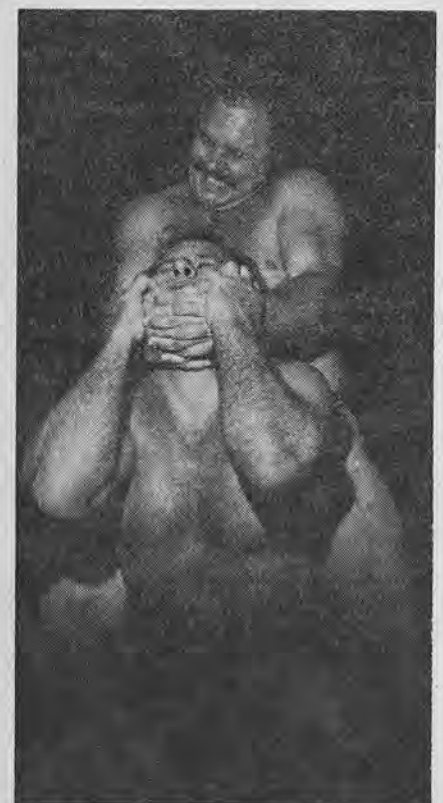
PHOTOS by GENE GORDON



Those mighty mites of matdom, the midgets are always big box-office attractions. Here, Billy The Kid applies a nerve hold to Sammy Little John.



Bill White has Joey Rossi in dire straits as he applies a nerve hold in attempting to make his opponent concede.



Bill White shows no mercy as he grits his teeth and applies more pressure as he has Danny Miller in a painful chinlock.

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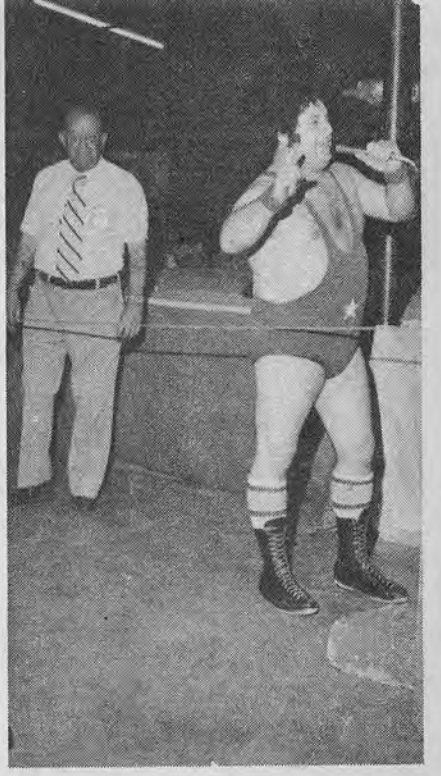
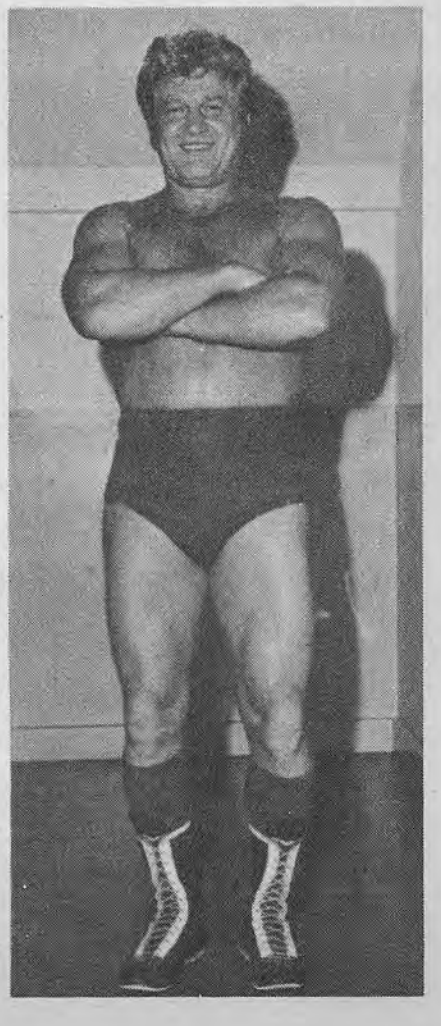
GORDON'S grapplin' gems

PHOTOS by GENE GORDON

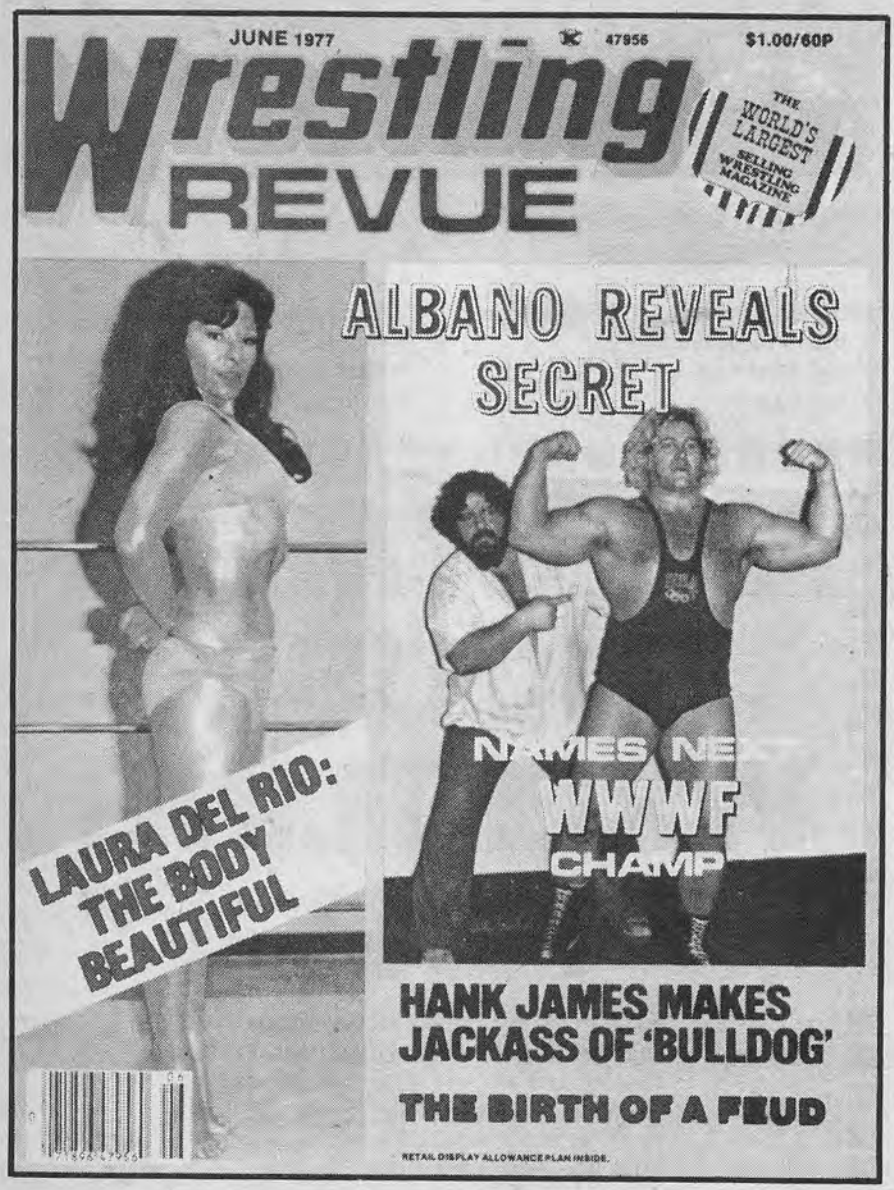
Phil Watson accommodates some of his fans by granting them their autograph requests.



Buddy Porter takes the microphone to deliver a message to Republic Wrestling Association fans. In the background is promoter J.C. Howard.



A veteran of the wrestling wars who can still trade holds with the best of them is Red Bastien.



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9. The Sheik
10. Chavo Guerrero

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4. Ole and Gene Anderson
5. Jack and Jerry Brisco
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10. Greg Gagne and Jim Brunzell

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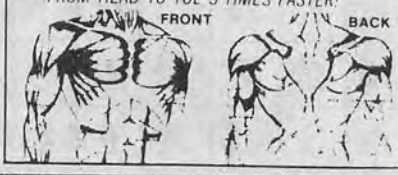

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WRESTLING MONTHLY WORDSEARCH

By BARBARA REEVES

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B	A	H	A	S	F	I	R	E	L	L	N	T	B	A
G	A	T	A	C	T	I	O	N	L	O	O	T	F	C
E	I	T	E	D	R	A	W	I	R	M	L	E	A	T
N	D	T	T	S	O	D	T	T	I	L	S	R	V	I
T	O	H	U	L	C	S	S	C	A	R	S	R	O	C
L	L	G	S	D	E	H	D	F	A	Y	A	Y	R	S
E	N	I	E	I	K	R	E	M	N	K	V	F	I	A
G	R	F	L	N	O	N	I	A	C	U	N	U	T	T
I	E	M	C	P	O	N	S	O	T	B	A	N	E	A
A	I	A	S	D	A	E	L	M	B	E	C	K	F	M
N	K	E	U	C	L	D	I	B	R	R	R	T	W	A
T	E	T	M	U	A	S	U	A	E	B	A	S	W	K
K	U	G	R	E	S	R	L	N	R	M	X	O	W	R
I	E	A	H	O	G	U	N	A	N	A	W	A	P	O
L	T	T	U	Y	P	I	W	A	A	A	W	N	M	T
L	S	R	L	O	W	L	F	B	O	U	T	S	A	P
E	I	L	P	D	E	E	P	S	L	O	C	K	H	A
R	I	G	R	A	H	A	M	Y	O	U	N	G	C	B
B	T	R	A	I	N	S	H	A	R	D	H	O	L	D

A
Action
Atomic Drop

B
Battle
Billy Grubb
Bouts
Brawl

C
Canvas
Champ

D
Draw

F
Fall
Fan
Favorite
Fight

G
Gentle Giant Killer
Graham

H
Harley Race
Has Fire
Hates Cheaters
Headlock
Hold

I
Idol

M
Mat
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Muscle

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Nod
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O
Ox

P
Pa.
Pin
Popular

R
Rules

S
Skills
Speed
Stamina
Steve Kiern
Strong

T
Tactics
Tag Team
Terry Funk
Tor Kamata
Trains hard

W
Winner
WWWF

Y
Young

DIRECTIONS

Cross out each word on the word list below as you find it. The words run in any direction. The remaining letters will spell the name of this month's mystery wrestler.

(Solution on page 64)

WRESTLING BACK ISSUES

WRESTLING MONTHLY

1 Jan. 75

2 May 75

3 June 75

4 May 76

5 June 76

6 July 76

7 Aug. 76

8 Oct. 76

9 Nov. 76

10 Dec. 76

11 Jan. 77

12 March 77

13 April 77

14 May 77

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15 Nov. 74

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30 Sept. 75

31 Nov. 75

32 March 76

33 May 76

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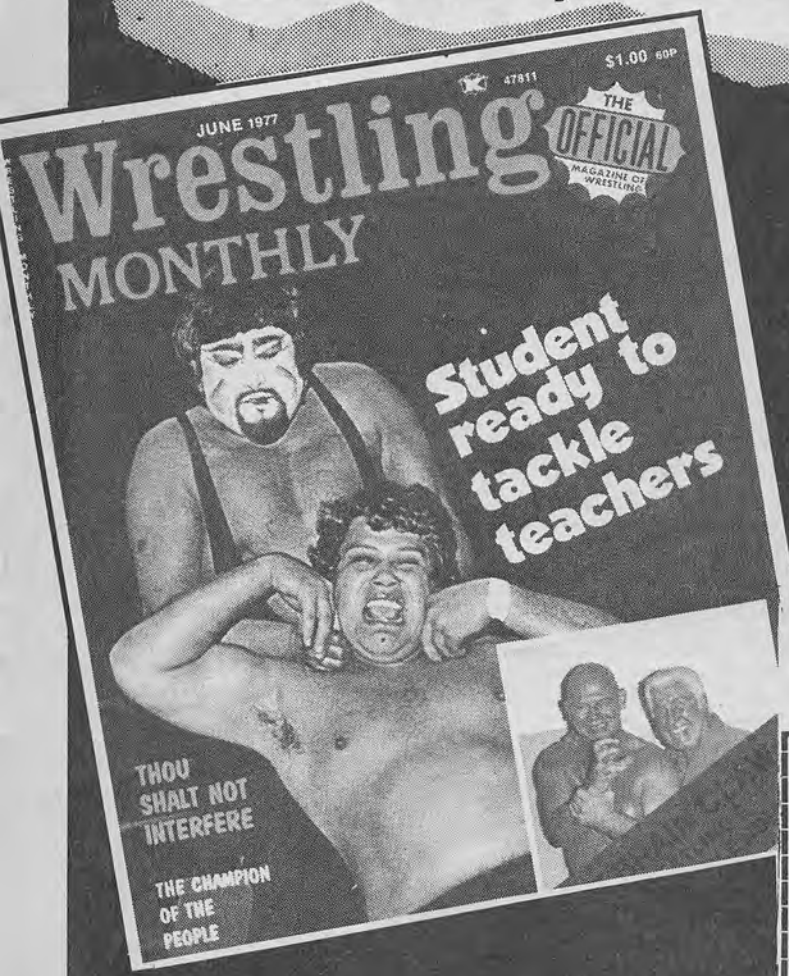

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And — equally as important —

By deliberately strengthening those "forgotten muscles" that are used only in the act of love, and therefore grow almost useless in the average man after he leaves his twenties! And taking those hidden "support" muscles, and building in a few minutes every day such rock-hard strength into them that you will achieve at last complete mastery of your own virility . . . **shown most dramatically in your new-found ability to maintain "staying power" for "unbelievably" long periods of time!**

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The safest, and easiest, way to **prevent** prostate trouble.

How to keep the **Youth Juices** flowing in your body! In other words, use these simple exercises, not only to make you a master in bed, but **also to "Re-Landscape" your face and body so you may have to reject more offers than you accept!**

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What women prize in a lover most . . . what they expect . . . what they fear . . . what turns them on and drives them wild . . . what non-bed actions allow them to trust you completely in bed! **All gathered for you, in condensed form, from "shameless" interviews with hundreds of women all over America!**

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a true story by Bob Ferrel

SOME YEARS AGO I was a printer in a small Michigan town. I drew a pretty fair pay check but it wouldn't stretch far enough to provide the kind of living I wanted for my wife and five children.

Then one day I was reading a magazine just as you now are and I saw an ad. It intrigued me. It offered me the steadily growing income I had always hoped for. It said I would have greater security and personal independence... and that's what I had been wanting.

I was a little skeptical, but I said to myself, "for a postage stamp I can find out." So I mailed the coupon. In a few days, I got a letter with a booklet that gave the whole story. It opened my eyes. I could see why owning my own business was so much easier than I had always thought . . . why the day to day guidance of a successful worldwide organization could assure my own success.

I read the booklet several times. It just seemed too good to be true. I talked it over with my wife. We decided that **now** was the time to make the forward step . . . there was no reason to keep postponing an income increase.

So, I applied for a Duraclean dealership and I was accepted. I stayed with my job . . . ran a few ads . . . sent some mailings . . . contacted a few stores and told my friends about the superior services I was now equipped to give them. Evenings and Saturdays, I rendered the service. As the business grew, I added servicemen.

I found that I didn't have to develop a single idea myself. Every step had been prepared for me and pre-tested. Hundreds of other men had already proven my methods successful.

It didn't take long to see that I was making three to four times (yes, 3 to 4 times) as much per hour in my own business as in my printing job. So, after only seven months with a good following of customers, I quit my job to go full time on my own. In the meantime, I had enjoyed all this extra income on top of my salary.

Each day, we realized what a **serious** mistake not mailing that coupon would have been . . . and how that little act that seemed so trivial at the time actually changed our lives.

The steadily growing income brought us many things we could not afford before. My efforts were so much more productive. I scheduled my time to my own liking. When we wanted a day or two off, we took it. I worked hard but, if I wanted to be home early or quit at noon, I did.

This is not a business for a lazy man. But if a man is ambitious and will work to deserve those nice things in life we all want, this business is made to order for such a man.

I became so enthusiastic about this business and so appreciative of what it had brought my family that, whenever a man opened a dealership near me, I helped him get a quick start.

The company learned about this and had each new dealer in my section of Michigan spend a day with me. One day the president of Duraclean Company asked me how I would like to move to Headquarters and spend my entire time helping dealers to increase their sales and profits.

That was good news to my ears. Since then I have worked with hundreds of our dealers in their own towns and at regional meetings, conventions and dealer group meetings. But much of the time I am right here at my desk in touch with our dealers by letter and telephone.

Incidentally I sold my dealership at a good profit. Dealers sell their Duraclean businesses for up to ten times their cost. After 30 months Leo Lubel sold for $7,116 above his cost. If for any reason a dealer wants to sell, we maintain a service to locate buyers and help him sell.

Our job here at headquarters is to show each individual Duraclean dealer how to use his own abilities to bring him greatest success. I know hundreds of our dealers on a first name basis. We work together as one happy family. If you become a Duraclean dealer, I'll be as close to you as your telephone or mail box.

It's Easier than You Think To Build Your Own Business

If you've wanted to BE YOUR OWN BOSS... to become financially independent and have a fast growing income, now YOU CAN. And you own a Nationally Advertised business.

You can stay at your present job while your customer list grows . . . then switch to full time, lining up jobs for your servicemen to do. One job a day brings a good starting income.

If you hire two servicemen (full or part time) while you keep your job, the national price guide provides you a gross profit of $14 an hour on their work and this is much easier to do than you think. **We show you how . . .** step by step. That's $190 for a 35 hour week.

Your gross profit on three servicemen is $21 per hour. Duraclean dealers find it easy to gross $7 per hour on EACH serviceman plus $12 an hour on any service they themselves render. The 21 page illustrated booklet we'll mail you (with no obligation) explains how most of your gross profit becomes **clear net profit.** Your income is limited only by the number of servicemen you employ.

You can operate from a shop, office, or your home. Equipment is light and portable.

At the start, you may want to render service yourself . . . or you can start with full or part time servicemen. This business is easy to learn . . . easy to start . . . so easy to service that women dealers do it. We prefer you have no experience . . . not have to "unlearn" old ways.

We are NOW enlarging this worldwide system of individually-owned service businesses. If you are reliable, honest and willing to work to become financially independent, we invite you to mail the coupon.

When you receive our illustrated booklet, you will see the way we show you **step by step** how to quickly get customers . . . and still more customers from their recommendations.

You have 7 superior services that are rendered "on location" in homes, offices, hotels, theaters, clubs, motels and institutions.

These are not ordinary services. You have the prestige and endorsement of leading furniture makers and carpet mills, of Parents' Magazine and McCall's, of Research and Testing Laboratories.

National magazine advertising explains superior merits of **your** services, builds **your** customer confidence and brings job leads to **you.**

We and a Duraclean dealer will train you and assist you. He'll reveal his successful, proven methods. You have pre-tested newspaper and yellow-page ads, commercials, and a full mailing program.

Stores, upholsterers, insurance adjustors, and decorators refer jobs to our dealers. These year 'round services are in constant demand.

Start Small, Grow Big in this Booming Business

Many men have said to us, "I can't afford to give up my job till I know I have a sure thing . . . a sound business that will provide both security and a better living for my family."

That made sense to us so we worked out such a plan . . . and those same men are now enjoying a Duraclean dealership in many communities. You don't experiment. You use **tested, proven** methods. You have **our backing and "know how."**

Does this appeal to you? Don't decide now. Mail the coupon so you'll have the facts to decide wisely. There is no obligation. You'll then know whether this is what you want.

You can start small and grow big. A third century ago Duraclean was an idea . . . but it caught fire and spread to a world wide service. Why did it spread? (1) **superior processes.** (2) **proven customer-getting methods** (3) **Day to day guidance from Headquarters.**

Our first service, the care of upholstery and carpets not only cleans, it enlivens the fibers . . . revives dull colors. Pile rises with **new life.** There's no harsh machine scrubbing. No soaking. Mild aerated foam lightly applied lifts out dirt, grease, many unsightly spots like magic. Furnishings are used again in a few hours.

Government figures show service businesses are **growing faster** than industries and stores . . . $750 million yearly potential just in rug and furniture cleaning. Your **6 other services** are explained in the free booklet we'll mail you.

Less than $1500 establishes YOUR OWN business. A day's profit more than pays the monthly payments we finance for you.

Men frequently take in partners.

We furnish electric equipment and, with first shipment, enough materials to **return your TOTAL investment.** If you have good habits and know the importance of customer satisfaction, you can likely qualify for a Duraclean dealership.

TODAY is the time to reserve a Duraclean dealership, **before** someone takes your location.

It's been said, "Opportunity knocks but once at every man's door." This could be that one rare opportunity in **your life.**

It is surprisingly easy to learn this business. You can decide from the information we will send you whether to apply for a dealership. So, with **no obligation whatever,** mail the coupon TODAY. Cut it out NOW so you won't forget to mail it.

Mail this coupon TODAY
It may put you in business

Duraclean International
7-P7D **Duraclean Bldg., Deerfield, Ill. 60015**

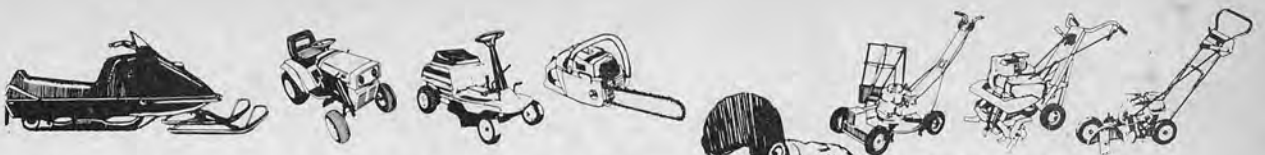
With no obligation, mail 24 page illustrated booklet telling how and why I can quickly increase my income and family security **while still employed,** how you'll help finance me. No salesman will call.

Name_____

Address_____

City_____

State & Zip_____



Get in on the PROFITS in SMALL ENGINE service and repair

BEAT INFLATION!

Cash in on the huge demand for small engine repair.

Work part time, full time right at home - we help you every step of the way.

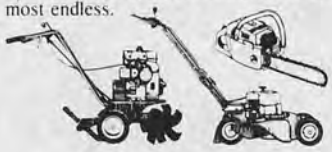
Start your own money making business!

In just a short time, you can be ready to join one of the fastest growing industries in America... an industry where qualified men are making from $10.00 to $15.00 per hour... and that's just for labor. Parts, engines and accessories add even more to the profits.

Because the small engine industry has grown so quickly, an acute shortage of qualified Small Engine Professionals exists throughout the country. In fact, it's not unusual for a good small engine man to be three to four weeks behind in the summer and at least a week behind in the winter. When you see how many small engines are in use today, it's easy to understand why qualified men command such high prices—as much as $17.50 for a simple tune-up that takes less than an hour!

46-million small engines are in service today!

That's right—there are over forty-six million 2-cycle and 4-cycle small engines in service across the U.S.A. That's the official count from the Engine Service Assn., and new engines are being built at a rate of one-million per month! With fully accredited and approved Belsaw training, you can soon have the skill and knowledge to make top money servicing these engines. Homeowners and businessmen will seek you out and pay you well to service and repair their lawnmowers, tillers, edgers, power rakes, garden tractors, chain saws, mini-bikes, go-carts, snowmobiles, generators, snowblowers, paint sprayers... the list is almost endless.



No experience necessary.

You don't have to be a 'born mechanic' or need prior experience. If you can read, you can master this profitable trade right at home, in your sparetime, without missing a single paycheck. Lessons are fully illustrated—so clear you can't go wrong.

You receive trade secrets and business plans

We guide you every step of the way, including tested and proven instructions on how to get business, what to charge, how to get free advertising, where to get supplies wholesale... all the "tricks of the trade"... all the inside facts you need to assure success right from the start.

Increased Income

"I've had about 8 years experience repairing small engines... but repairs were only minor... until I started the Belsaw Course."

Walter H. Strick
Campbell, California

With our famous 'learn-by-doing' training method, you get practical 'hands-on' experience with specialized tools and equipment that you'll receive with your training *plus* a brand-new 4 HP engine—*all yours to keep!*

SEND FOR FREE FACTS!

You risk nothing by accepting this offer to find out how Belsaw training can give you the skills you need to increase your income in a high-profit, recession-proof business of your own.

Just fill in and mail coupon below (or send postcard) to receive full information and details by return mail. *DO IT TODAY!*

Send TODAY for this fact-filled FREE BOOKLET!

Tells how you quickly train to be your own boss in a profitable Sparetime or Fulltime business of your own **PLUS** complete details on our **10-Day NO RISK Trial Offer!**

BELSAW INSTITUTE OF SMALL ENGINE REPAIR
3903 Field Bldg., Kansas City, MO. 64111

There is NO OBLIGATION and NO SALESMAN Will Call—ever!

BELSAW INSTITUTE, 3903 FIELD BUILDING
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI 64111

☐ **YES,** please send me the FREE booklet that gives full details about starting my own business in Small Engine Repair. I understand there is no obligation and that no salesman will call.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ **Zip** _____

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